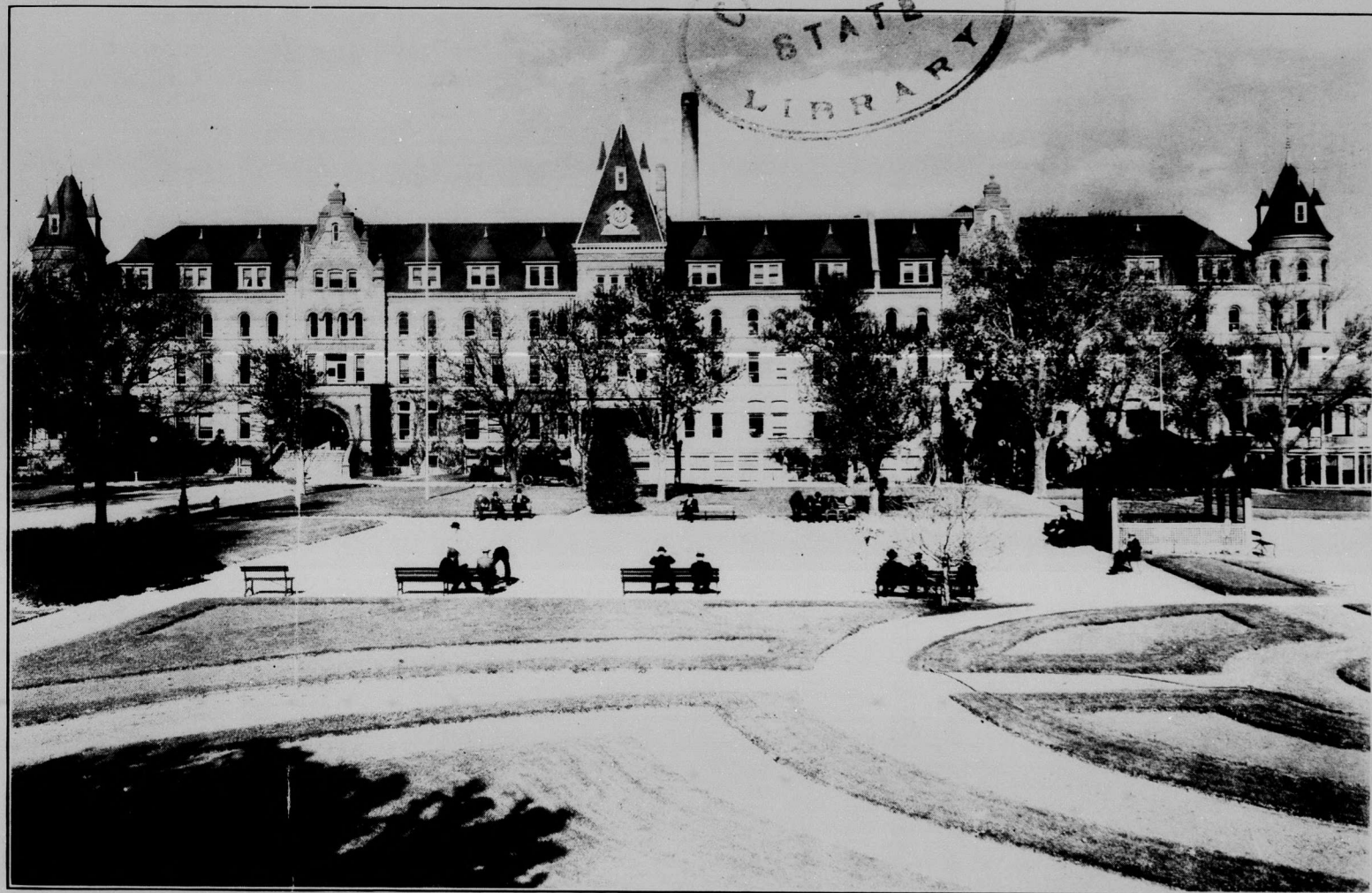




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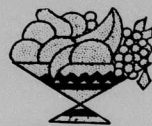
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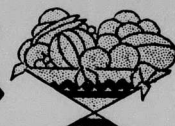
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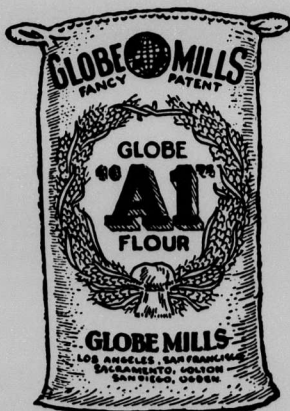
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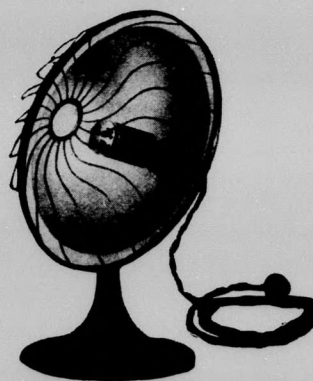
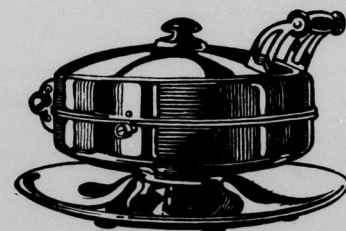
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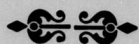
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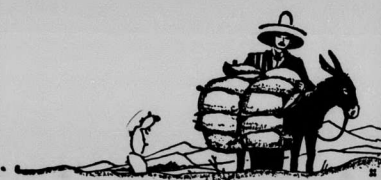
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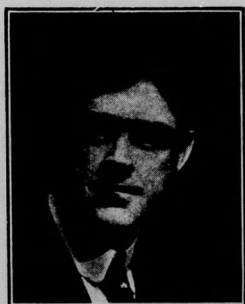
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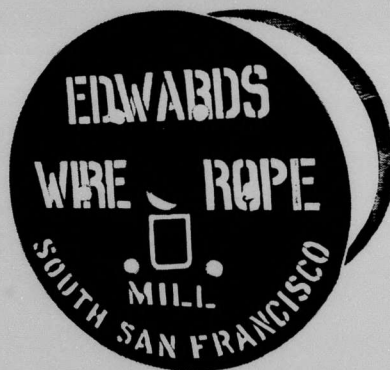
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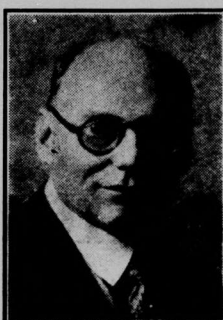
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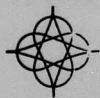
LABOR CLARION

The Official Journal of the San Francisco Labor Council

VOL. XXIX

SAN FRANCISCO, FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1930

No. 30



LABOR DAY, 1930

By WILLIAM GREEN, President, American Federation of Labor.



The celebration of Labor Day this year will take place at a period when the unemployment situation is very serious indeed. About one year ago when we celebrated Labor Day in 1929 it was clearly evident that a decided reaction had set in and the country was approaching a most unfavorable industrial condition. Each month the situation has grown steadily worse until now we find that there are more people unemployed on Labor Day, 1930, than at any similar period since the World War. Naturally this problem of unemployment overshadows all other problems.

Fortunately, the American Federation of Labor has functioned in a most serviceable way all during the distressing period through which we have passed and are now passing. The economic facts and philosophy which the American Federation of Labor expounded regarding the establishment and maintenance of high wages have had a tremendous moral and restraining effect. The theory of high wages has made a tremendous appeal to the judgment and opinion of all classes of people associated with industry and industrial enterprises. In addition, the organized labor movement is recognized as a strong force in opposition to any reduction in wage standards and conditions of employment. It has exercised a powerful influence in the maintenance of wages, hours and conditions of employment.

While the gravity of the unemployment problem holds a dominating position in the thoughts and minds of men and women there are many other problems of social and economic importance which are being given close attention and careful thought by the hosts of Labor.

Labor is deeply interested in the development of strength and influence in the organized labor movement. We wish to enhance and enlarge the influence and service of the organized labor movement. Labor knows, from experience, that it is through organization, co-operation and collective bargaining that industry can be made more profitable and the wages and living standards of the masses of the people can be raised to a level commensurate with the requirements of American citizenship.

We are engaged in extending the organization among the non-union workers in every industrial section of the country. An intensive campaign of organization has been carried on in the South during the past year. In many cities and towns throughout the country the organization has inaugurated organization campaigns with marked degrees of success. Both the numerical and eco-

nomic strength of the American Federation of Labor have been extended and increased.

In the legislative field we have pressed our claims for remedial legislation. Our activities have been directed along constructive and practical lines. We have secured the passage of the Old Age Pension legislation for the State of New York and elsewhere. We have secured the enactment of Convict Labor legislation and we have succeeded in bringing to the attention of the public the injustice of "Yellow Dog" contracts.

Substantial improvement has been secured in the enactment of Workmen's Compensation legislation and in legislation designed to better protect the employment of women in industry. We are pressing for favorable consideration amendments to the immigration statutes. We shall continue our efforts in this line until we succeed in making the immigration restriction laws more nearly conform to the social and economic requirements of our nation. Substantial progress has been made in the improvement of Retirement legislation for large groups of government employees. We shall continue our efforts in this direction until adequate and satisfactory retirement legislation is secured for government workers in this field. We have also specialized in our efforts to secure a reduction in the number of hours worked and in the number of days worked per week by government employees.

The injunction relief legislation which was approved by the Toronto Convention of the American Federation of Labor is of supreme importance. This bill is pending in the Congress of the United States and its enactment must be regarded as of supreme legislative importance.

As Labor enters into the spirit of Labor Day and participates in its celebration this year it will keep in mind the lessons of the past and the problems of the future. It will vigorously contend for a practical and humane solution of the problem of unemployment and will reiterate its demand that this blight upon our civilization be permanently removed. To say that unemployment is a necessary evil is to admit the superiority of uncontrolled forces over intelligence, education and efficiency.

We hold that unemployment occurs because of the failure of industry and society to deal with it and to apply a remedy. The definite demand of Labor, upon the celebration of Labor's national holiday, is that industry and society immediately seek and secure a practical solution for the problem of unemployment.

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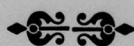
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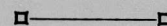
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Going Forward

By A. H. HOLLAND.

The subject of the Union Printers' Home is always a live theme, not only to the seventy-eight thousand printers who contribute to its support, but to organized labor everywhere and in general and particular. This Home is the outstanding exponent of the principles of the brotherhood of man in the world. The Home represents a net outlay of \$3,000,000 and is maintained at a yearly cost of more than \$300,000. What is being accomplished to justify the spending of so much money? Sufficient is the fact that hundreds are made happier and hundreds of others restored to health and usefulness. It is, however, the purpose of this article to discuss the Home at some length with sufficient detail that he who reads may come to a better understanding of the institution and its accomplishments.

The building and improvement activities at the Home during the past twelve months have been in accord with the program outlined by the national political administration for the purpose of furnishing needed employment to idle workers. As it transpires the improvements made at the Home were in the nature of almost an immediate necessity.

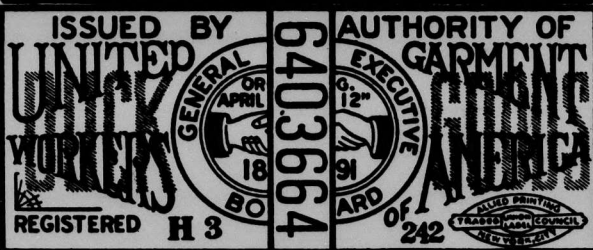
President Howard and the Board of Trustees of the institution decided upon building, repairs and expansion operations at the last session of the Board, and their authorized wishes have been carried out by Superintendent McCoy in a wise and business-like manner.

As a starter, there was the necessity of a new heating plant. This plant has been completed and is in operation. It is as practical and up-to-date as anything of the kind in the country. The new heating plant and laundry building is of brick and concrete construction, three stories high. It was planned and builded under the supervision of Fisher & Fisher of Denver, one of the best and most reliable firms of architects and contractors in the West. The plant is equipped with three 150-horsepower boilers, made by Babcock & Wilcox, and considered the very best on the market. A Babcock & Wilcox chain-grate stoker arrangement permits of the mechanical handling of coal and ashes. Heretofore the Home supported three heating plants, which are now all in one, connections with the new heating plant having been made with the greenhouse, dairy barns and chicken houses, and as a matter of course, with Main Building and Hospital. The new heating arrangement will consume the lowest grade of coal, which will permit of a saving of one-half on the fuel bill of the Home. Storage capacity is provided for 130 tons of coal, sufficient fuel to carry the institution through any sort of contingency resulting from snow blockades or excessive and protracted cold weather.

A concrete tunnel 400 feet long, with an inside dimension of six feet six inches high and six feet and six inches wide, has been constructed to connect the heating plant with the

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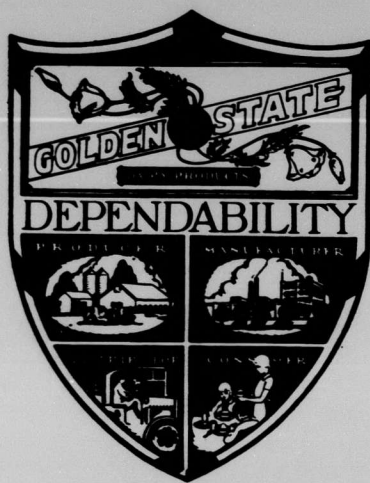
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Main Building and Dormitories. Steam pipes and conduits are carried through this tunnel, besides it is utilized as a thoroughfare between the buildings, allowing the residents free passageway without being subjected to the severe cold of Colorado winters or other inclement weather conditions.

Provisions have been made for the manufacture of ice and the new plant houses a complete refrigerating system. There are vegetable and meat cooling rooms large enough to furnish storage facilities for foodstuffs and supplies in large quantities.

The top floor of the heating plant building is given over to the laundry, which with all new machinery and equipment, is as fine a laundry plant as can be found anywhere. The machinery is the product of the American Laundry Machinery Company, and there is nothing better made of the kind. An addition to the new laundry is a shirt pressing machine bought for the sake of economy. The Home used to pay more than \$2,000 a year to Colorado Springs laundries for



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the laundering of shirts of residents. The large volume of laundry work as required for the Home can now be expedited as never before. Adjacent to the laundry, storage rooms have been provided for linen, blankets and mattresses—another needed convenience. It may be truthfully said of the new heating plant and laundry that they are strictly modern and have been constructed and equipped with the ultimate idea of utility and economy.

The old 150-foot smokestack on the Home premises has been razed; the induced draft fan at the new heating plant doing away with the requirements of a high chimney. The old heating plant and laundry has also been razed and the brick and other building material preserved for future use. The cement of the smokestack has been used for surfacing roadways within the Home grounds.

The site of the old heating plant building will be graded, parked and seeded to grass, making a pleasant prospect from the hospital sun porches, where before all was drab of aspect and filled with confusion and noise. The new heating plant is far removed from the main buildings, an arrangement which will be of great benefit to sick residents.

A new elevator was purchased recently from the Montgomery Elevator Company of Moline, Ill., and installed in the

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Main Building, which in the opinion of the Home Trustees and architects, is best suited for use in the Home. The car has a collective control which causes it to stop automatically at each floor, going up or down, when loaded with passengers. Always the car of itself returns to the first floor landing. The automatic control of the car is uncanny in the completeness of its operation.

A garage has been constructed at the north entrance of the Home grounds with a capacity of forty cars for the accommodation of residents and employees who own automobiles. The rental for stalls in the garage has been fixed at the nominal sum of \$1 per month.

It has become necessary to erect new chicken houses to protect the chickens from the rigors of winter. The flocks have been increased to nearly 3,000 birds, and it is the aim of the Home management to produce sufficient poultry and eggs for Home requirements. Last year the poultry department produced 5,507 dozen of eggs and 932 pounds of poultry.

A tentative proposal was brought by President Howard before the Seattle convention for the erection at the Home of a Memorial Building, and the proposition was favorably received by the delegates. Further consideration of this proj-

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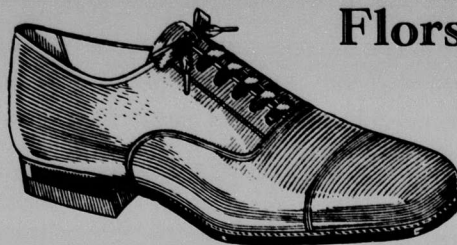
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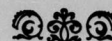
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ect will be made in the near future. The Memorial Building, as planned, would accommodate the executive offices, an auditorium, the library and assembly halls, and would vacate the first floor of the Main Building, and this space could be utilized for the accommodation of more residents. The individual rooms thus provided would take care of the ever-increasing number of residents no doubt for years to come.

The croquet court, for a long time a blot on the landscape west and in front of the sanatorium wing of the Main Building, has been relegated southward beyond the pavilion and along with it went the adjacent summer pergola. The devotees of the mallet and balls will find the new court perhaps more to their liking as being less publicly situated. The site of the old court has been parked and beautifully ornamented with green grass and blooming flowers. Thus a vast improvement in the appearance of the Home grounds has been accomplished.

Houses and pens have been constructed for a herd of sixty stock hogs recently purchased, and added for breeding purposes there is a registered Poland-China boar and five brood sows. This is the first time the Home has engaged in hog raising. It should be a profitable venture. Garbage,

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which used to be given away until the last year, and skim milk will furnish much feed for the hogs. The intention is to butcher for Home consumption Home-grown pork. Superintendent McCoy because of his Scotch ancestry could not see the garbage go to waste with equanimity.

The Home dairy herd consists of 140 head of Holstein-Freisian cattle headed by three registered bulls. The past year's proceeds from the dairy was \$32,371.32, as indicated by local market estimates. The entire output of the dairy is consumed within the institution.

Corn and other field crops are raised for ensilage and rye, cane and sudan grass grown for fall and spring pasture. A well-tended garden produces practically all kinds of vegetables in large quantities and of excellent quality. The lawns and flower beds are a delight to the eye during the summer months.

No article about the Home is complete unless it discusses the human side of the institution. As a matter of fact the human instinct is the Home and to be kind to a certain class of humans is its mission. The record of residents tells a splendid story of beneficence. Since the opening of the Home thirty-eight years ago, 3,989 have enjoyed its hospitality.

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Of that number 2,540 have vacated, a majority of whom were restored to health through the medical aid and care of the Home, and had been able to resume the common activities of life. One hundred and ninety-five have been expelled for infraction of the rules of the institution, and 941 have died. The average number of residents domiciled in the Home during the past year has been slightly in excess of 310. During the year 174 residents have been admitted, six have been expelled, and 84 have died.

The Home has three large plots in Evergreen Cemetery, Colorado Springs. These plots are kept in fine condition at a cost to the institution of \$305 a year. Each grave is marked with a headstone with the name of the deceased, his Union, and the date of birth and death. Since the opening of the Home 561 residents have been buried in the Home plots, while 380 were sent to their respective homes for interment. Funerals for residents at the Home are solemn occasions. All due respect and homage is paid to the dead. Religious services are held according to the previously expressed wish of the decedent. Fellow residents act as pallbearers.

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and helpful treatment among the residents is as large as may be expected. The hospital furnishings and equipment are of the best. Kindly care and a home environment surrounds the aged and afflicted resident. Medical meetings of late origin are being held weekly, claiming the attention of the residents and having a tendency to get false notions in regard to diseases and the causes out of their heads. The lectures delivered at these meetings by members of the Medical Staff are interesting and instructive.

Residents are provided with good serviceable clothing. Their individual rooms are clean, comfortable and cheerful. The food is excellent, well prepared and of a variety only found in the best hotels and restaurants of the country. Residents who do not receive allowances from their local Unions are given 50 cents a week for incidental expenses. Only thirty of the 133 Unions represented in the Home send their residents a regular allowance.

The social life of the Home covers a considerable range of amusement activities. Perhaps the most popular entertainments have been furnished by members of the Denver Typographical Union and the Ladies' Auxiliary of No. 49. These people have frequently appeared at the Home with an array of talented musicians and other entertainers of sorts

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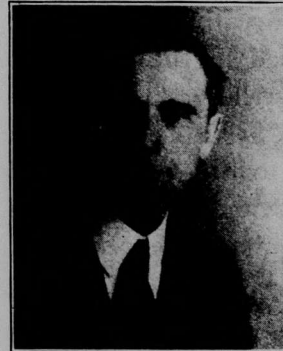
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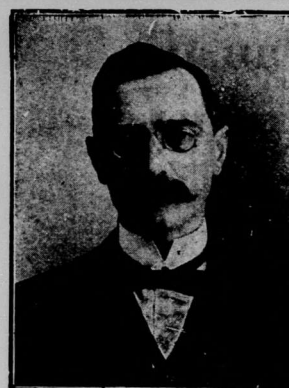
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and given the residents an evening of genuine enjoyment. The weekly moving picture shows during the winter months may be a source of pleasure to every resident who is physically able to leave his room. Special affairs have been arranged for the holiday season, and there was an appropriate observance of Easter and Memorial Day. Croquet furnishes pleasant outdoor diversion in nice weather. There are billiards, checkers and chess to while away the time and many residents take keen delight in appearing around the card tables hours upon hours.

Sunday afternoon religious services continue throughout the year except for a short summer vacation. These meetings are conducted by Colorado Springs ministers of various church denominations and are always accompanied by good music furnished by the church choirs and other musical talent.

The Home is a wonderful attraction to the thousands of tourists who visit the Pikes Peak region and a stream of sightseers eddies around the institution during the summer season. Hundreds of Union printers inspect the Home yearly, but of these there is not enough, and never will be, until everyone of the seventy-eight thousand members of the International Typographical Union has seen and admired his beautiful and comfortable Home.

The Home is in capable hands. Superintendent and Matron McCoy have been happily chosen for their multitudinous duties. They are kindly, considerate and impartial in their dealings with the residents. As it appears their every move as concerns the conduct of the institution is made in the interest of harmony, economy and growth.

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Samuel Gompers—A Character Appreciation

By FREDERICK RUSSELL POPE, M. A.

In the mid-year of the last century, on the 27th day of the first month, a young Jewess brought forth a son, upon whom was bestowed the forename of Samuel, Israel's righteous judge. That, of course, was not an event of any particular interest to the mighty city of London, for Spittlefields was a mile from the Ghetto, and what went on in Spittlefields was of no concern to the rest of the world metropolis on the Thames.

Yet, sixty-eight years later this little Samuel was to be ceremoniously driven through the gates of Buckingham Palace and for an hour was closeted with His Majesty King George V. It's a long, long way from Spittlefields to Buckingham! Let us mark the journey.

The Gompers ancestry is an interesting illustration of what unforeseen results may arise from minor events. When Napoleon dispatched his armies to the Lowlands he did not dream, of course, that he was to furnish the Republic of the Western World with a leader of men whose achievements may well be compared to his own—with this to the latter's greater glory, that he shed no blood, made neither orphans nor widows.

But, as it happened, a certain soldier of the army of occupation took himself a wife by the name of Rood, and Samuel's mother was a Rood. His father's line, as the name implies,

was Austrian, though both parents were actually born in the city of Amsterdam.

The Gompers children spent much of their time on the streets—of necessity, for eight humans in two rooms is somewhat more than enough. Indeed, it was there that the lad's wits were sharpened, and he himself has paid tribute to "the street" as a powerful factor in his education.

But great was the influence of Grandfather Solomon on the growing boy; two key-lessons in character did the old man teach him: first, to hold his tongue; second, to hold his temper.

"Samuel," he would say, "if you wish to keep a secret, tell it to no one—then only I know it," and he would write down the figure I. "If you tell it to another then (marking down II) this many will know it; and if he tells another, then this many—III."

The instruction in self-control, the old man, unfortunately for himself, impressed upon the boy by the "horrible example" method, for he was accustomed to fly off into furious outbursts of passion, whereupon the grandson would gaze at him, and say to himself, "Sam, that's you and it ain't good."

It has often been observed that men rarely outlive the influence of childhood and there is one event in the boyhood of Gompers that cut deep. Opposite his home stood a silk

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mill. The operators of it were largely descendants of those French Huguenots who had settled in England after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes by Louis XIV, that modest violet of French imperialism who remarked, "I am the state."

The introduction of machinery turned hundreds of these thrifty workers into the streets and the vision of their hopeless, dejected faces lingered in Samuel Gompers' soul for many a year after they had long since passed from an earth that begrudged them and their children bread.

Yes, times were hard, and at the age of 10 the lad was put to work. "I had no understanding of the wrong done," says he, "but the inhumanity of it I have felt very keenly every year of my life."

But his nature craved knowledge. "Mental hunger is as cruel as physical," so he wrote. There were night schools. The Talmud "unlocked a literature of wonderful beauty and wisdom." And always there were clubs, groups of eager debaters, parliamentarians, the forum of workers, often men of keen mentality, upon whom anyone might sharpen his wits. To one of these workmen—indeed, to whom his autobiography is dedicated—Ferdinand Laurell, a Swede, may well be ascribed the honor of setting the young immigrant's feet on the path they were ever after to follow. And in the New World, Cooper Union's gates were open, and through them he walked for over twenty years.

It was in the year 1863 that the Gompers family sailed for the United States, then torn by dissension, age-old, over the question as to whether man must make bricks without



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Whereas, the Eighteenth Amendment is misplaced in the Federal Constitution in violation of the fundamental American right of local self-government in local affairs, and in surrender to the Federal authorities of police duties over the habits and the conduct of individuals which belong of right to the States; and

Whereas, National Prohibition under this Amendment has been the source of intolerable wrongs, having undermined our Federal system of government, robbed our citizens of Constitutional rights, fostered excessive drinking of strong intoxicants, bred corruption and hypocrisy, caused ruthless killings of men, women and children, sown disrespect for law and order, and flooded our country with untaxed and illicit liquor; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment demands redress of these wrongs through restoration to the several States of the right of their peoples to enact such liquor laws as they may respectively choose, the abolition of the old-time saloon having paved the way for sound and enlightened legislation by them for the control, or, if they wish, for the prohibition of the liquor trade, provided that such legislation shall not conflict with the duty of the Federal Government to protect each State against violation of its laws by citizens of other States; and be it therefore further

Resolved, that the Eighteenth Amendment must be Repealed.

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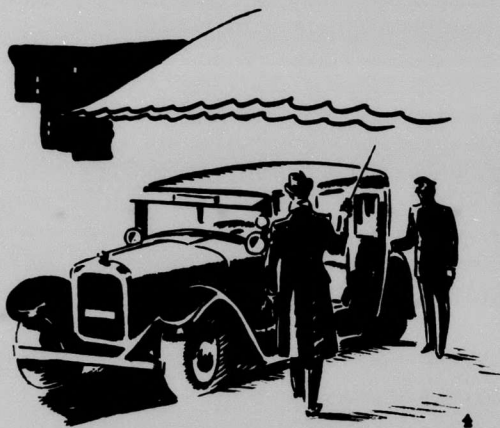
straw. Moses in Egypt had once protested to Pharaoh that they should not; Pharaoh, loath to lose the cheapest priced labor known—slavery—had clung to it until the plagues loosened his grip. Lincoln in America had duplicated divine precedent by the issuing of the Emancipation Proclamation the very year this young descendant of Moses set foot in the United States. And his days, too, were to be a devoted continuation of the faith, the fighting of a good fight, the proclaiming of an eternal, everlasting "No" against the exploitation of blood by greed.

The new arrivals settled, of course, in New York City. Suffice it to say that there was a slaughterhouse across the way from their lodgings and a brewery in the rear! Neighbors—English, Irish, German and Dutch.

A citizen at the earliest opportunity, 1872, when he had already been married five years. People did not wait to start at the top in those days!

For ten years after his marriage Gompers worked at his trade, a cigarmaker, as did many another youth. But there was a unique "sociability" about the man; over and over again in his autobiography one reads the simple statement, "I love men," "I like to be with men." None of them seemed unimportant to him.

We hear of a group called "Die Zehn Philosophen," the ten philosophers, meeting, strangely enough, at the Tenth Ward Hotel. And the ten philosophers believed what Alexander Pope and Socrates had told them, that the proper study of mankind is man; and, though proud universities would never have given them credits or points for their discussions,



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the ten philosophers produced the germ of what no proud universities could produce, to-wit, the germ of the American Federation of Labor. "To them," says Gompers, "life was an adventure, not a tragedy."

It was in 1876 that Samuel Gompers was elected to his first official position, president of Local No. 144. The following year he found himself with a strike on his hands, at the conclusion of which, he tells us, he was heavily in debt, with most of his little stock of valuables in pawn.

Now we are quite certain that at this point someone will be asking, "And what did he 'get' out of all these jobs?" for devotion to an ideal is considered a medieval virtue today; the world is always thinking in terms of "get," not give.

Samuel Gompers gave. "The labor movement," he writes, "is fundamentally spiritual, inspiring dedication as completely as any religious movement. We placed labor before everything, personal advancement, family, comfort."

Let us examine that statement in detail—"The labor movement is fundamentally spiritual." "I failed to see," he protested, "how men who claimed to believe in conventional religious standards, Christian or Jewish, could profit through the misery of human beings." (We should love to know just exactly how Mr. Gompers felt in 1902 when a certain mine owner exclaimed, "The rights of the laboring man will be protected not by labor agitators but by the Christian men to whom God in His infinite wisdom has given control of the public interests of the country." Are these, we wonder, the same Christian gentlemen who today control a certain public

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utility that recently decreed no men over forty should be employed by that company?)

To return to the statement quoted, "We placed labor before everything, personal advancement, family, comfort."

"Before personal advancement." A few facts: In 1914 the then governor of New York, Glynn, offered Mr. Gompers the chairmanship of the newly-formed workmen's compensation commission, at a salary of \$10,000 a year. It was refused. We will not enumerate the many other honorable offers that were made and rejected. Other men accepted. They were well within their rights in doing so. "It was not," exclaims Gompers, sadly, "that they were corrupted; they were weaned away." Yes, weaned away by political jobs, by corporation executiveships, by one or another mess of porridge.

As for dishonorable offers, they were many. Feathering his nest would have been but the trouble of raising his hand—\$10,000 for a mere list of names and addresses of the delegates to the labor convention at the time of the notorious ship subsidy bill of 1899. How did he answer that? By hobbling to the hall in arctics and on crutches, and seeing to it that the proposal was buried deep in the mud whence it sprang.

"Before family." A few extracts from the story of his life: "My mother died while I was in Omaha delivering a Labor Day address." And again: "When in Des Moines and while on the platform speaking, I received a telegram stating that Rose, my eldest daughter, was dead. I tried to



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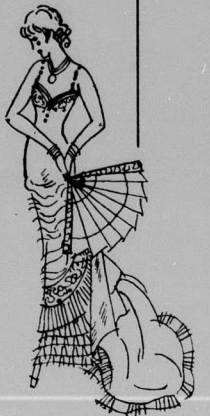
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finish my talk, but could not." And again: "My daughter Sadie died while I was in Italy during the war. Somehow I felt it was hardly just compensation for the service I had tried to render."

"Before comfort." "I traveled on immigrant trains, cheap boats and freight cars." "We carried our offices in our hats and earned our living by our trades." "When my shoes needed repairing, I wore old slippers." And finally—and this should convince the most skeptical anti-laborite—Mr. Gompers never owned a dress suit till 1902! An amusing sidelight is this: He had been invited to address the New York Board of Trade and Transportation—the Brahmins, as he called them. Should he or should he not wear a dress suit? Big question this. (You remember Gann versus Roosevelt?) Note the solution: "I finally concluded that nonconformity to convention would only make me conspicuous and would not help my cause, so I bought my first evening suit."

We believe this man was 100 per cent honest. We do not think that a self-seeker leaves as a post-mortem message these words: "Say to them that as I kept the faith, I expect they will keep the faith."

Yes; to him the labor movement was fundamentally spiritual, inspiring dedication as completely as any religious movement. And he did place labor before everything, personal advancement, family, comfort. And our answer to the question, "What did he 'get' out of it?" is: "He did not 'get'—he gave."

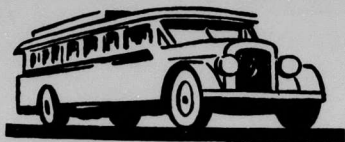
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book agent, peddling the works of his illustrious compatriot, Charles Dickens. To whom? To tenement house cigarmakers, not likely prospects, as the super-salesman would say. But Mr. Gompers, to tell the truth, is not using his mouth in this campaign so much as his eyes, and what he sees of tenements converted into pigsty "factories" he jots down in a little notebook. The contents of this notebook he divulges to another man, a "silk stocking," who at that time was serving his first term in the New York State Legislature. Rather interesting, these two people talking over that notebook. The young legislator thinks it grossly exaggerated, refuses to believe.

"Come and see," urges Gompers.

They go; the young Assemblyman is persuaded; he promises to champion a regulatory bill and he keeps his promise. Theodore Roosevelt and Samuel Gompers were to meet on many a future occasion; doubtless each recognized in the other that most attractive of masculine virtues, aggressiveness. "But I am President of the United States," once roared the former Assemblyman, now become chief magistrate of the republic. "That is true, Mr. President," retorts the undismayed Gompers, "but I am president of the American Federation of Labor and as such I shall insist upon our right to pursue a lawful course."

We know of no man so little impressed by what the world calls great as was Mr. Gompers. His perfect, matter-of-fact attitude toward names which dazzled was astounding. Was it because he had ever so clearly in his mind's eye the masses of those who toil so that the splendor with which this or that

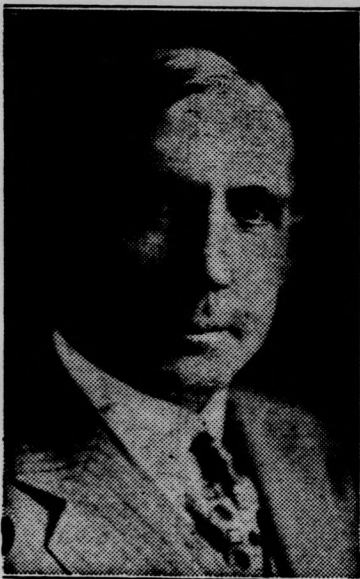
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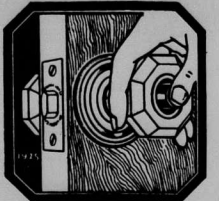
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king or president was surrounded seemed so negligible? Through every chapter of his life resounds the simple call, "I love men."

The first and, with the exception of one year, the perpetual president of the American Federation of Labor, was Samuel Gompers—elected, 1882; salary, \$1000; full-time to be devoted to the federation, which, be it noted, was a rather decentralized body at that date! "The American trade union movement," Gompers wrote, "had to work out its own philosophy, technic and language." Elaborate offices, consisting of one room, ten feet by eight, furnished with a kitchen table and a soap box for a chair—were set up in East Eighth street, New York. Seated here on the soap box Samuel Gompers started to work out the philosophy, technic and language of American trade unionism. We very much doubt whether the shrewdest man in the United States, looking in at East Eighth street those days, would have gambled one cent on the success of that enterprise.

But Gompers was no "wheel-chair" general. Up and down the city and country—impossible to follow his pilgrimages those years. We hear an amusing incident upon the occasion of his first speech. He was being heartily congratu-

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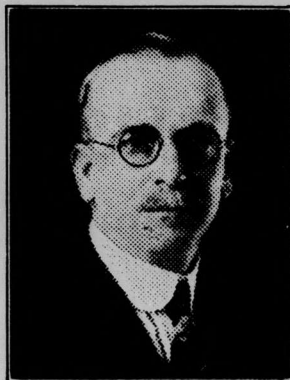
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lated. Finally a certain old and trusted friend reached out his hand: "That was all right, Sam. You will yet a good speaker be." "I was a bit crestfallen," admits Gompers.

"The last speaker," said an ultra-conservative New York paper, "was Mr. Gompers, who made a miserable fist of it." "Then," comments Mr. Gompers humorously, "they concluded, as a gracious afterthought, 'The meeting broke up peacefully.'"

The growth of the Federation during the nineties was not spectacular. "We plodded on," says he. And there is just a world of meaning in that simple statement, "We plodded on." Time and again one runs across that sentiment. "It takes fortitude to continue hammering away at a project year after year with no visible results." "The patience of labor is one of the most remarkable features of the whole struggle." There is something tremendously convincing about slow growth. This is nature's way—this is how all that is has come to be—coal and iron, oaks and man. "We plodded on."

But not dumbly. The man on the soap box chair was a seer who foresaw. Industrial centralization—the "trust," as it was called—must be countered by a parallel development in labor. "The trade union is labor's constructive suggestion

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to democratic regulation of large-scale production. I will not join the howl against trusts; all I ask is to give us freedom to work out our own salvation, and give industry the same opportunity. The economic world is essentially scientific; politics is the field of contending forces."

If it be objected that there is a certain vagueness to Mr. Gompers' labor creed at this time, we can only reply that assuredly there was. We have already stated that; and at no time in his life could he have produced what he rather sardonically termed "blue prints and specifications for a labor movement." This man was not a philosopher; he was a general. "All my life," says he near the close of it, "has been a fight." And—let us not deny it, for he did not—partisan fighting for one cause. "If I cannot defend an error, I shall try to find an excuse for it." And a hard fighter. "In any contest in which human interests are involved I have never given nor asked mercy; the issue is the thing. It is a clean fight and a man's fight." He took his work and himself seriously. There is no flippancy in the man, no bravado, a grim humor, at times. To a millionaire steel man who claimed that "his men" had acted very undiplomatically in the matter of calling a strike, Mr. Gompers replied, "But we don't grow

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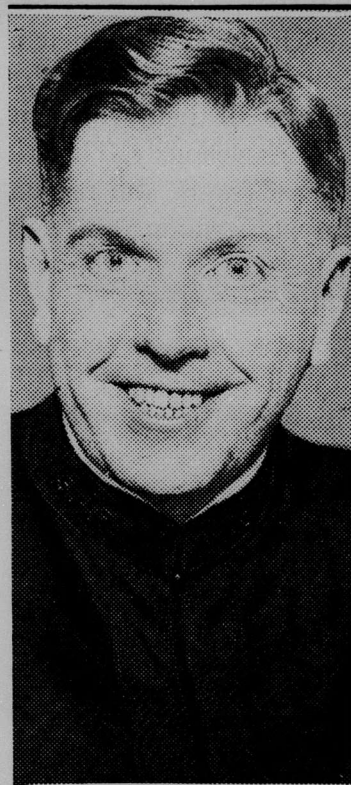
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diplomats on 12, 13 and 14 cents an hour, Mr. H." And to another who asserted that those who work with their heads are superior to those who work with their hands, Mr. Gompers answered by reminding him that his generalization had overlooked hogs, who do all their work with their heads.

Yes; he took his work seriously. The cries of the starving Huguenots of Spittlefields were still resounding in his ears; and—whether in Egypt, London or the New World—still there were and still there are those who would willingly have others make bricks without straw.

He charted his course, as a practical sailor does, from day to day. A good captain does not run his ship against a reef to prove that his vessel is staunch and will not spring a leak. "There is nothing to be gained by taking an immovable stand for an impossible cause." It is statements such as these, so illustrative of the man's generalship, that arouse animosity in the minds of those who feel it more glorious to dash out their brains against stone walls than to scale them in order to attain an objective.

But when Samuel Gompers knew his ground, his rights, he stood firm. The Buck Stove and Range Company case is now history, but it is not so well known as it fully deserves to be. We will not here rehearse the affair, but we will tran-

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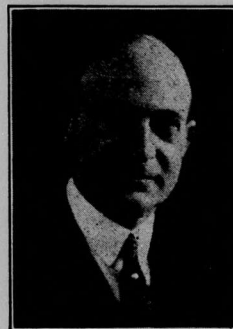
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scribe Mr. Gompers' memorable reply to the accusing judge—for such he was. After hearing his conduct described by the learned (?) justice as "coarse, unrefined and insolent," the accused answered: "If men must suffer because they dare speak for the masses of our country, if men must suffer because they have raised their voices to meet the bitter antagonism of sordid greed which would even grind the children into the dust to coin dollars, I shall not only have to, but be willing to submit to whatever sentence your honor may impose." Bang! goes the gavel. "One year!" And yet, if we recall correctly, Mr. Lincoln's second inaugural contains some phrases perilously like these.

So for seven years Samuel Gompers went about his business with a jail sentence on his mind. But finally, in 1914, the sentence was declared invalid by the Supreme Court of the United States under the statute of limitations. The man stood his ground. "We were not lawyers, but we had learned the principles of human freedom in a school that burned them into us and no one could shake our grasp of them." And still the Huguenots of Spittelfields go marching on!

If there was any one event which might symbolize the success of Samuel Gompers in a material sense it was the dedication in 1916 of the Labor Temple in Washington,

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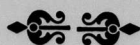


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D. C. A long way from East Eighth street, the kitchen table and the box! Surely he must have been thinking of that one little room that day when he escorted the President of the United States to the platform. And surely, for he was a human being, he must have felt a deep satisfaction—and labor must have felt it no less—when Woodrow Wilson said, "I want to express my admiration for his (Gompers') patriotic courage, large vision and statesmanlike sense."

The dedication of labor's beautiful home in 1916 may, in a sense, be said to mark the close of Samuel Gompers' career as a labor leader proper. Soon were unchained the ancient dogs of war. And overnight the whole aspect of society had changed. The primal instinct of the herd to protect itself quickly seized on all; and labor was no exception to the rule. At the beginning of the conflict Samuel Gompers was what he had been for many years—a doctrinaire pacifist. In this he was in most excellent company, as anyone knows, for we do not doubt that practically the whole working world was similarly minded. At the same time it never occurred to him to question his Americanism. That we will accept at face value. His activity throughout the struggle was an inspiring example of undivided loyalty, although, even after his appointment to the council of national defense, he was con-

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scious that the other members of the committee regarded him with suspicion or reservation. It is still very true, as was sorrowfully said by another, that a prophet is not without honor, save in his own country. Could there be a more beautiful illustration of this than an incident that occurred in London, August, 1918? Lloyd George was speaking at the Carleton Hotel; beside him sat Samuel Gompers. "Mr. Gompers," said the British minister, whose countrymen likewise—many of them, at least, in the past—had found no language bitter enough to describe the little Welshman, "Mr. Gompers, we were not always accepted as we are now, but we have never wavered from the ideal of justice, freedom and humanity."

Let us not linger on his war mission, his broadcasting of American labor's message to European workers. Marshals, emperors, presidents and parliaments hailed him; but somehow we cannot escape the feeling that for him, as for millions of others, the fact that war shattered so many fond ideals as to cast a shadow over life ever after.

"There will yet be a World Parliament of Man," he insists.

Somehow, writing from the viewpoint of one who served as a youth in the trenches, we sense in Mr. Gompers' story of the war a profound sadness as though there had been piled upon his shoulders an incredibly heavy load. In the twinkling of an eye the world is turned upside down. Perhaps the past had been all wrong—perhaps new visions are needed. "Well,



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if so," we fancy this man of seventy saying to himself—he and many others, "if so, the burden of it rests on these millions whom we saw in khaki. Perhaps—perhaps, they will bring back a message from No-Man's Land."

Was it, we wonder, the prompting of some such vague reflections as these that made him write: "When I am gone, I want someone to do me the justice to let the world know that I was never in entire accord with my colleagues upon the withdrawal from the International Federation of Trade Unions" (in 1919).

The long day closes. The name of Gompers was as familiar in Mexico as in the United States. Calles is to be inducted into office at Mexico City. Gompers must be there. He goes. The ceremonies are over. In the beautiful sunken garden behind the National Palace a luncheon has been served. The diplomats, the "great," have left. It is sundown. Gompers remains for a moment, gazing interestedly at a group of barefooted peons, coming down the path. What are they doing here? As they approach him they fall at his feet and kiss the old man's hands. There have been many miles and many years traveled from Spittlefields!

And the years were all but seventy-five. All journeys end; and Samuel Gompers' ardent wish that he might be permitted to labor until he went out into Silence was granted.

Perhaps we do not yet know what the war has swept away of what was old and what of new must now be built. The radical of yesterday is hailed by the conservatives of tomorrow. But whatever shall be done, whether by plagues of Egypt, by evolution, or by revolution, by peace, or by war, nothing worth-while can be done save by men with as deep a love for their fellows as Samuel Gompers' love. Turn the pages of his life and read it again and again: "I love men—no human being is unimportant."

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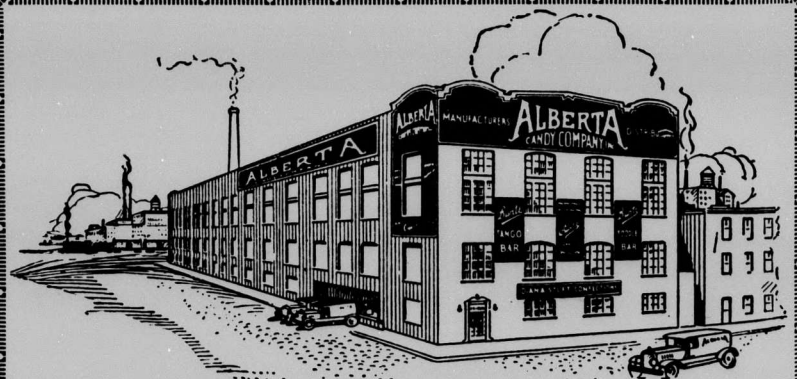
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THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN JAPAN

By PAUL SCHARRENBURG
Secretary, California State Federation of Labor

The writer recently visited Japan and in this article gives first-hand observations of the Japanese labor movement, together with his impressions of things heard and seen in that country.

A close-up view of the Japanese labor movement will leave with any American trade unionist the most conflicting emotions. The plain people's daily habits and customs, their food, their dwellings, their language, yes, their very thought seems like reverse motion and presents a picture not easily portrayed by mere words.

Any interpretation of the bitter economic struggle confronting Japan's working people of today will be hopelessly inadequate and quite out of balance unless preceded by a brief review of that country's extraordinary history, and particularly her rapid transformation from a feudalistic state to her present status as a progressive world power.

The Japanese proudly claim that the origin of their empire dates back to 660 years before the birth of Christ and that the dynasty founded in that year still reigns.

Japan, unlike any other country on earth, remained a hermit nation up to February 12, 1854, when Commodore Perry made his second visit and concluded a treaty providing for a limited intercourse with foreign nations. Prior to that time

Japan's sole contact with the world had been through the Chinese and (beginning in the early part of the 17th century) with a few Dutch traders who were, however, confined to a small island Nagasaki. This policy of enforced isolation very naturally perpetuated ancient customs and traditions. While the working people in Europe and America were groping and feeling their way toward industrial democracy, Japan saw the most complete development of the feudal system and, by edict of the rulers, the virtual eradication of Christianity.

Not until 1867, the advent of the "Meiji," or era of enlightened government, did Japan witness the practical extinction of feudalism. The formal abolition of feudalism took place in 1871. The first railroad opened in 1872. A constitution, guaranteeing certain rights of self-government to the people, was promulgated in 1889 and the first parliament met in 1890. Suffrage was restricted to taxpayers up to May, 1925. Since that time virtually all male Japanese above the age of 25 may qualify as electors.

The successful war with China in 1894 and the stupendous struggle with Russia in 1904 are still fresh in mind and illustrate the extraordinary military and naval progress of that singular island nation in a few short decades.

The first labor unions were organized shortly after the

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war with China. There is a record of an Iron Workers' Union organized in Tokyo on December 1, 1897. The railroad workers, ship carpenters, wood sawyers, dyers, printers and others had organized local trade unions before the last century came to an end. In tracing the history of the early organizations the evidence seems to indicate beyond the question of a doubt that the Socialists looked upon the unions of workers as made-to-order propaganda carriers. At any rate, the Socialists soon gained control of the labor unions and transformed them into semi-political societies. Then the Socialists started an internecine war over tactics and in the course of a few years they had succeeded in disrupting the struggling economic organization of the workers.

Labor unions now existing in Japan do not date back much further than 1912. In the latter part of that year there was organized at Tokyo the General Federation of Labor of Japan. The Federation has had a precarious existence. Three times in its short history has the radical left wing element attempted to disrupt the Federation by a secession movement.

The first split took place in the Eastern District Federation in 1924-1925, when the Communist group which was expelled by the General Federation established the Japanese Council of Trade Unions. This organization was dissolved in April, 1928, by order of the government, on account of its violation of the Public Peace and Safety Act. The second conflict culminated in 1926, when those who were dissatisfied with the conservative policy of the executive, seceded and established the Japanese Federation of Trade Unions. The seceding group had about 25,000 members.

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During the past year the central committee of the General Federation of Labor found it necessary to discipline the leaders of certain extremely radical groups in Osaka. These men then prevailed upon a number of local unions to secede and, according to local reports, this will result in the formation of another separate federation "to be established on realistic principles based on the class war."

From this very brief outline of the Japanese labor movement, it will be noted that the organized workers of that country devote an unusually large part of their time and



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energy to internal warfare. Notwithstanding this deplorable situation, the number of trade unions, together with the total membership, has shown a steady increase since 1923. Following are the official figures compiled by the Japanese Bureau of Social Affairs:

Year	Number of Unions	Membership
Dec. 31, 1923.....	432	125,551
Dec. 31, 1924.....	469	228,278
Dec. 31, 1925.....	457	254,262
Dec. 31, 1926.....	488	284,739
Dec. 31, 1927.....	505	309,493
Dec. 31, 1928.....	501	308,900
June 30, 1929.....	542	321,125

The total membership as of June 30, 1929 (321,125) consisted of 307,821 men and 13,304 women.

Nearly all the unions in Japan are purely local, as the term is understood in American trade union parlance. Several unions cover more territory than a single city, but only two unions are organized on national lines. They are the Japan Seamen's Union and the Mercantile Marine Officers' Association. A visit at the headquarters of the Japan Seamen's Union in Kobe brought forth interesting information.

In 1920, while attending the International Seamen's Conference at Genoa, Italy, several representatives of the then existing local Japanese Seamen's Unions came in contact with the representatives of European and American Seamen's Unions. Upon their return to Japan they pointed to the absolute necessity of a nation-wide union of seamen. Accordingly, on May 7, 1921, the local unions of seamen merged into the Japan Seamen's Union. The system and form of nation-wide organization, adopted in 1921, was patterned after the American and British Seamen's Unions, with some modifications to fit Japanese traditions and usages.

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The headquarters of the union are located in a modern, three-story stone building owned by the union. The union has thirteen branches, situated in the principal ports of Japan. In four of these branches, namely, at Yokohama, Tobata, Osaka and Hakodate, the union also owns the buildings which house the respective branch offices. The value of all the real property owned by the union is estimated at Yen 250,000 (\$125,000). In addition, the union has bank deposits aggregating Yen 285,000 (\$142,500). The union also owns and operates fourteen motor boats to facilitate business and keep in contact with members when ships are anchored in the respective harbors.

The membership of this union has increased steadily throughout the eight years of its existence and is today close to 80,000. Wages have almost doubled since the seamen of Japan recognized the wisdom of organizing on a national basis. The highest wages are paid in the transpacific trade. Able seamen in that run receive Yen 60 (\$30) per month, in addition to board and lodging.

Compared with the wages of workers ashore and even with the salaries of Japanese government employees, the seamen of Japan rate very much higher in the scale of average wages than the seamen of any other country. For instance, the daily wages paid to mechanics in Japan range from Yen 2.00 (\$1) to Yen 3.00 (\$1.50) per day. Men employees in textile mills average only about Yen 1.75 (87 cents) per day. Police officers in Tokyo begin with a monthly salary of Yen 45 (\$22.50) and a certain allowance for their uniform,

but none for board and lodging. The young employees (15 to 30 years of age) of commercial houses in Tokyo receive an average salary of Yen 34.60 (\$17.30) per month.

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12-31-29		25.00	225.00		225.00
1-1-30		25.00	250.00		250.00
2-1-30		25.00	275.00		275.00
3-1-30		25.00	300.00		300.00
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tion of the International Labor Office, conducts seamen's employment bureaus. The government makes an annual grant of Yen 10,000 (\$50,000) to cover the expense of operating these agencies. All other expenses of the National Maritime Conciliation Board are borne in equal shares by the shipowners and seamen's groups.

While the board has been quite successful in adjusting disputes and maintaining industrial harmony in the operation of Japan's merchant marine, there have been occasions when the Seamen's Union felt compelled to resort to the strike. The last strike took place in June, 1928. It was called to establish minimum conditions on freighters and did not affect passenger liners. This strike ended with a complete victory for the seamen. A volume of 402 pages, giving all the graphic details of that short struggle, has been published by the union for circulation among the members.

Rather intimate contact with the principal executive officers of the Japan Seamen's Union made it quite evident that none would partake of liquor. Repeated inquiry finally brought forth the reason for their total abstinence. The president of the union, Mr. K. Hamada, who happened to be in Geneva attending a session of the International Labor Office, did not indulge in any alcoholic drinks because he thought the officers should set a good example to the rank and file. And since the president had decided to use this sort of self-restraint, all the other officers deemed it a solemn duty to do likewise. This simple illustration will help to explain the strange, deep-rooted Japanese religion or romance of loyalty.

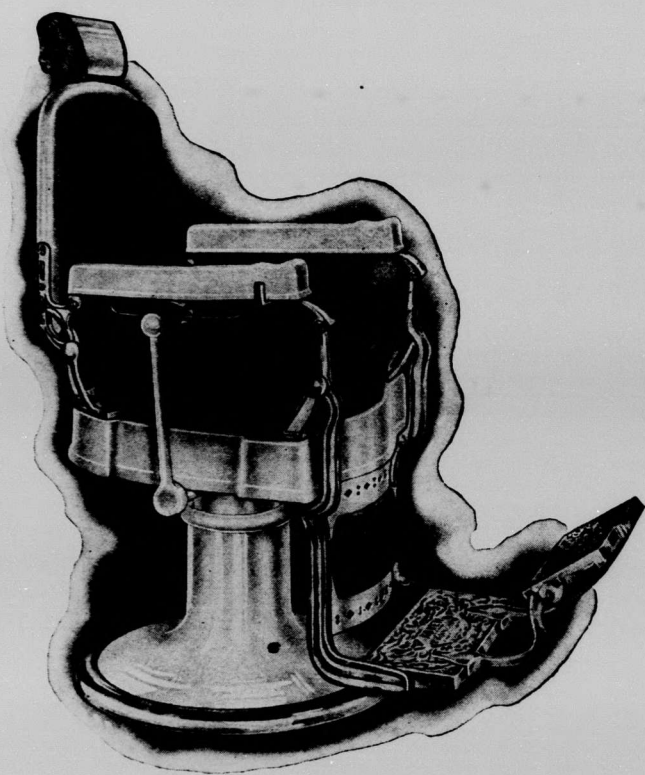
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Instant and unquestioned willingness to sacrifice, yes, to commit harikari—to kill one's self at command—such was the very essence of the old military social order of Japan. Much of this old religion of loyalty is extant in modern Japan. It is there, face to face with Occidental civilization and aggression.

Next to the seamen, the best organized trades are: Machinists and metal workers, teamsters and chauffeurs, letter carriers, navy yard and arsenal employees, textile workers and tobacco workers.

A summary of the proceedings of the third biennial conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations, held in Kyoto, Japan, appeared in a recent issue of the American Federationist. In attendance at the Kyoto conference were, in addition to the writer, the following representatives of labor: Malcolm MacDonald, Labor member of the British Parliament and son of the Prime Minister of Great Britain; Tom Moore, president of the Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, and Bunji Suzuki, president of the General Federation of Labor of Japan.

By arrangement of President Suzuki, the before mentioned trade unionists addressed several large meetings of workers. Notable among these meetings was a rally of textile workers at Otsu, picturesquely situated on Lake Biwa, some fifteen miles from Kyoto. About 500 mill workers had recently organized in Otsu and shortly thereafter the two mills had abolished the 12-hour shifts and substituted two 8½-hour shifts. About 80 per cent of the mill workers are

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girls, and the change was made to comply with the new factory law regulating the working hours of females. At the same time the workers had been told that there was no need for organizing, because the management of the mills would do the proper thing without the prompting of labor agitators. President Suzuki, Tom Moore and the writer addressed this meeting, and the job was to convince these workers that the only guarantee of the shorter work-day and of improved working conditions was the union. The meeting was held in a rough frame building ordinarily used for a motion picture theatre. The 400 seats were filled and as many more stood on their feet for the full duration of the meeting—about two and a half hours. President Suzuki introduced the speakers and also served as interpreter. Not a soul left the hall and no orators on earth ever had a more attentive audience. In accordance with Japanese law and custom, a police officer was seated upon the platform and several others were stationed along the aisles, but no one paid any attention to them and the police officers did not in any manner interfere with the progress of the meeting.

Another most interesting meeting, preceded by a modest banquet, was held at Osaka, the principal industrial city of Japan, with a population in excess of 2,000,000. This gathering was arranged by the Osaka Labor Council and the 250 men in attendance were the leading and most active men in the Osaka labor movement. In addition to Tom Moore, Bunji Suzuki and the writer, Malcolm MacDonald also addressed this meeting. All the great newspapers of Osaka had report-



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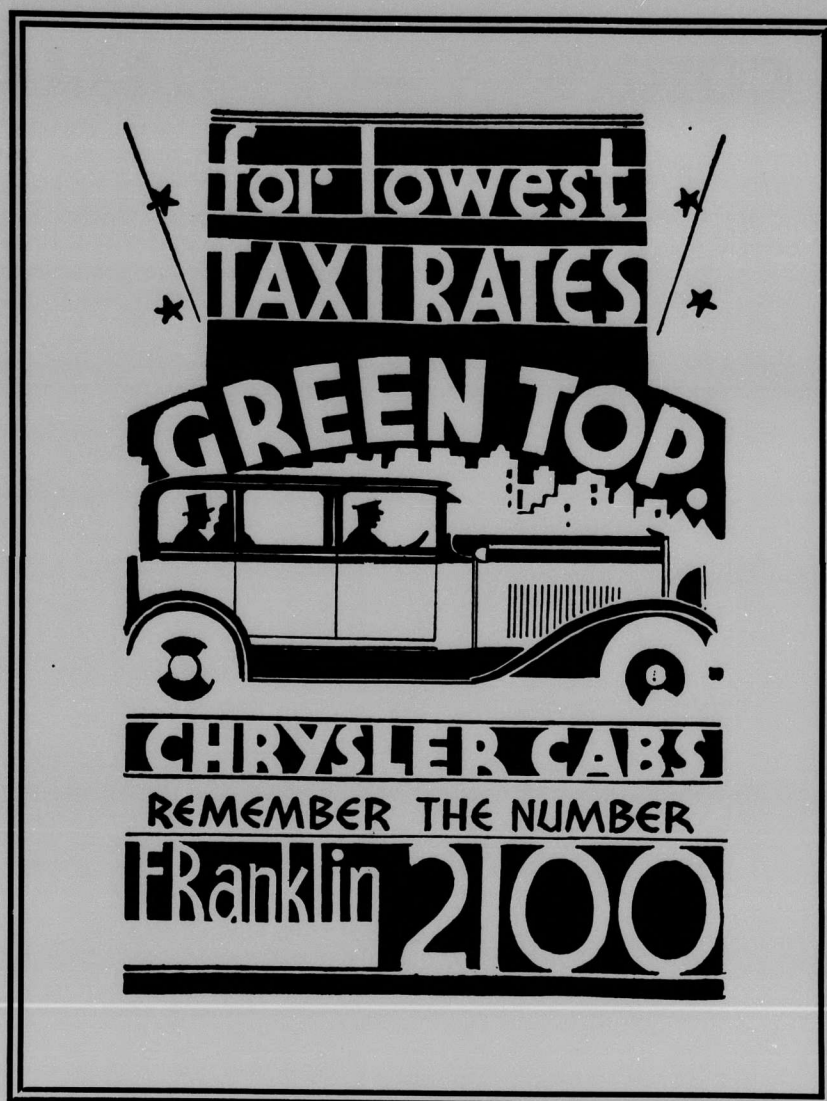
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ers and photographers at the hall. For Japan it was an extraordinary event—it was real, live news to have the son of the Prime Minister of Great Britain mingle with the plain workers and address them at length on the great problems confronting the workers of the world. At the conclusion of this meeting questions were invited from the floor. If anyone had any doubt about the intelligence of the audience, such doubts were entirely removed by the scope and caliber of the questions asked. The active men in the labor movement of Japan are enlightened and well informed. If they could be induced to follow the example set by the Seamen's Union—stop fighting among themselves and apply some of the old Samurai loyalty to the labor movement, then they would, indeed, be invincible. But it may be unfair to render such a judgment. Perhaps it is their intense loyalty to a somewhat undefined ideal back of the labor movement that causes them to battle so furiously for the particular faction with which they happen to be aligned.

The eighteenth annual convention of the General Federation of Labor was held in Tokyo, November 16th-18th. In some respects this meeting was conducted very much like an American labor convention. However, certain features of the meeting seemed quite remarkable to a visitor from abroad. To begin with, there was present a small army of police. At the entrance to the hall was a cordon of police and everyone wishing to enter was searched or "frisked." In addition, there were numerous police officers on the main floor and in the gallery. The convention was called to order by President Suzuki and then a brass band played the "Mar-



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seillaise." After the first stanza the entire convention began to sing the Japanese version of the "Marseillaise." The singing of the historic French revolutionary song in a Japanese labor convention under police surveillance was, indeed, an exotic performance. The convention was particularly concerned over a trade union recognition bill which was then being drafted by a special committee of the Home Office for introduction at the next session of Parliament. The legal status of trade unions in Japan has been rather vague and uncertain. The first labor union recognition bill was introduced ten years ago, and its principles have been fully discussed, but without any tangible results. The point at issue was

whether the right to strike should be formally recognized or whether the old veto power should remain in the hands of the police. As things are now, the police may dissolve a union if, in their judgment, a strike is at variance with "public good."

It is interesting to note that on the very day when the convention adopted a resolution insisting upon the enactment of the trade union recognition bill the executive council of the Industrial Club of Tokyo, a union-baiters' society, passed a motion to oppose such legislation. In this instance, the Japanese plutocrats behaved exactly like their American counterparts. But the big influential newspapers of Japan, practi-

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cally without exception, ridiculed the opposition of the reactionaries. In a similar situation the great "moral engines" of America would have shown the usual editorial discretion—with an eye and an ear toward the advertising pages.

Other subjects receiving attention of the convention were: Prevention and relief of unemployment; the introduction of the eight-hour day; amendments to the Health Insurance Act; the repeal of the Public Peace and Safety Maintenance Act; the creation of strike funds; the re-engagement of workers after the completion of military service; opposition to the reduction of wages because of the abolition of night work; reform or abolition of the dormitory system in factories.

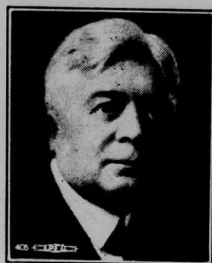
Much has been said and written about working conditions in the mills, mines and factories of the new industrial giant of the Orient. An earnest effort was made to obtain at least a glimpse at these workshops in the great human beehive called Japan. In the textile mills more than 80 per cent of the workers are women—or rather girls. These girls, ranging in ages from 15 to 21 years, are recruited from the rural districts on two-year contracts. They live in dormitories (six to eight in a room), and eat in dining rooms provided by the mill owners. Except in unusual circumstances, they never leave the mill and its immediate environments during the term of their indenture. No matter how deplorable living and working conditions may be in the mill, things are bound to be a little better than in the humble country homes where these girls saw the light of day and spent their childhood in never-ending toil and drudgery. In the largest mills, under

GREETINGS

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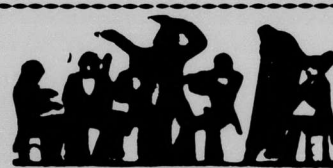
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liberal management, the girls' wages average about Yen 1.20 (60 cents) per day. This includes meals and sleeping space in the dormitory. In the smaller mills conditions are not nearly as good.

A visit to one of the largest and most modern machine works at Osaka proved decidedly instructive. This plant was, in American definition, an open shop. Union and non-union men worked side by side. When the president of this concern escorted a small group of foreign visitors through the shops there was no attempt on the part of anyone to put on speed. To the contrary, individuals and groups of workers would purposely slow down or entirely stop the work at which they were engaged to take a good look at the visitors. The speed-up mania does not seem to have obtained a grip on Japan.

Conditions in the mines of Japan have been generally reported as very backward as far as working conditions are concerned. Particularly bad reports have spread abroad relative to the Ashio copper mines, about 90 miles north of Tokyo. In these mines, owned by the haughty Furukawa family, women are said to be employed at the hardest manual labor for Yen 0.90 (45 cents) per day. President Suzuki, of the General Federation of Labor, repeatedly spoke of the many efforts made to organize the Ashio copper mines and of the ruthless suppression of each attempt. At any rate, an application to visit the mines was made through one of the most respected and influential men in Japan. But, as predicted by Suzuki, the respectful request for permission to merely look at the mines and the conditions under which these workers are employed was arrogantly denied. This refusal was, of course, a candid admission that working conditions in those mines are fully as bad or even worse than generally reported. Incidentally, it should be said, that this wanton discourtesy of the copper barons was in striking contrast to the spontaneous kindness, good-will and courtesy manifested toward a visitor from America by all classes in Japan.

In appraising the conditions of the industrial workers in Japan, one should always bear in mind that no matter how bad things may appear to an American observer, wages and working conditions in industry have improved and are still progressing in that direction. No such claims can be made for the agricultural population which constitutes approximately one-half of the total population. Japan's farms are badly overpopulated, and the "land workers" are leading a truly deplorable existence. Many do not earn enough to eat a bowl of rice three times a day. Motor-driven machines are scarcely used. The work of sowing, fertilizing, reaping and so on is invariably done by human labor. Farms are so small and labor is so cheap and so plentiful that machines can not compete.

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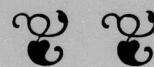
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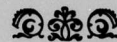
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No wonder Japan is talking about her problem—the problem of providing food for her ever-increasing population. It is agreed that emigration is not a solution because Japanese immigrants have been barred by virtually all the great nations bordering on the Pacific. And, strange as it may seem, the Japanese have entirely neglected the marvelous opportunity for wholesale migration offered by Manchuria, a rich, undeveloped, under-populated empire more than twice the size of Japan and right at her very door.

Some of the leading men of Japan have a notion that Japan's population problem should be solved by international co-operation. In a limited sense this idea has often been ad-

vanced by poverty-stricken parents who are totally unable to provide for their ever-increasing family. But this matter-of-fact world is not so altruistically inclined. The childless rich do not generally divide their wealth with the starving poor. Even if they were inclined to do so it would be a futile palliative rather than a fundamental remedy.

Overpopulation is a problem made in Japan. The world at large can scarcely be held responsible for its existence. The level-headed men of Japan fully appreciate this homely and obvious truth. They know that a rational solution can be and must be worked out right in Japan.

In talking to the trade-unionists of Japan, in groups as

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well as in mass meetings, it was an unusual privilege and pleasure to give a somewhat detailed account of the reasons which, in 1924, prompted the Congress of the United States to enact a Japanese exclusion law. In the course of these talks the fact was stressed that America's immigration restrictions are not based upon racial animosities, but upon economic grounds. Expression was also given to the thought that when the working people of the world have arrived at the happy stage of enjoying approximately equal wages and working conditions then there will be no need for restrictive immigration laws. It was also pointed out that a realization of this seemingly idealistic condition can be obtained by the thorough organization of the working people.

A radio talk along these lines was made at the JOBK broadcasting station. In this instance the translation into the Japanese language was made by Dr. Shichiro Matsui, a graduate of the University of California. The talks on immigration were always well received.

That Japan has a serious population problem is generally recognized. With a population of 64,000,000 in an area (152,000 square miles) somewhat smaller than California (115,000 square miles), this prolific nation has a net annual population increase in excess of 750,000. To make the matter worse, there is a shortage of land for cultivation. For example, while there are three acres of crops and nine acres of pasture and range land per person in the United States, a half acre of crops per person and considerable pasturage

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in China, in Japan there is only one-fourth acre of crops per person and almost no pasture. This fourth of an acre in Japan produces, probably, as much as the half acre in China, but the limit of production per acre is being approached. Japan's density of population, on the basis of arable land, is the greatest in the world.

Californians visiting Japan have generally agreed that the Japanese appear to much greater advantage in their native land than they do in California. The writer gladly acknowledges that his short but intensive study of Japan has filled his heart with genuine admiration for the proud Yamato race. There is a charm and a dignity in the life of the plainest and poorest people. There is cleanliness and kindness everywhere. And back of it there is always present that mysterious something—that conscious knowledge of one's inability to fathom the mind of the Japanese people.

As already stated, even a visitor from Mars would soon ascertain that the labor movement of Japan is badly divided and split into factions, politically and economically. But, however that may be, the men in the labor movement are alive, active and wide awake. They are not merely dues payers. What other nation can show a similar steady advance of the trade-union movement as is recorded during the past eight years in Japan? What other country has at the first general election under universal manhood suffrage sent eight labor members to the House of Representatives and since then over 1000 labor members to prefectural, city, town and village councils?

At this very moment the leaders in the labor movement of Japan are actively planning to hold an Asiatic Labor Congress somewhere in India during 1930. This contemplated Asiatic Labor Congress is in the nature of a dual movement

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The stated objects of the new Asiatic Labor Congress are: "Unity among the working classes of Asia, equality of treatment for all workers, the leveling-up of conditions of life and work in Asiatic countries to the standard of those in more advanced countries, the promotion of international social legislation, and the combatting of imperialism and capitalism. These aims are to be achieved by democratic and recognized trade-union methods, including co-operation with other organizations so far as such co-operation appears useful in the interest of the trade-union movement in Asia."

Whatever the future may hold in store for the peoples living on the shores of the Pacific, any observing visitor from abroad must be impressed with the extraordinary competitive ability of the Japanese workers. If, as Lafcadio Hearn pre-

dicted when writing of the future competition between West and East, "the races most patient, most economical and most simple in their habits will win," then the white race is doomed. We whites must have meat, and bread and butter; glass windows and fire, shoes, trunks, bags, boxes, bedsteads, mattresses and furniture of various kinds—all of which a Japanese can do without.

This is true. The Japanese workers can do without all these things. But will they? Mr. Hearn philosophized before the advent of trade-unionism. Therefore, he failed to take into consideration the effect of a pulsating, rising and achieving labor movement.

Compulsory education and the tireless activity of union labor organizers has changed the entire picture. In the language of Bunji Suzuki, "Even at present, in aspiration and education, Japanese workers do not stand behind the working class of any other country in the world!"

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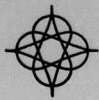
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LABOR DAY, 1930

By FRANK MORRISON
Secretary, American Federation of Labor



This Labor Day is marked by a pronounced trend toward new economic outlooks and a realization that our Nation is at the threshold of another era.

These viewpoints have been developing since the World War. During the past year, however, more thought has been given to the revolutionary effect of automatic machinery and its displacement of workers, mass production, mergers, and the encroachment of equity courts in the field of law enforcement.

These sweeping changes, yet in their infancy, have overturned former concepts. The new cycle has brought adherents to policies that would be considered, a few years ago, inconsistent with American principles.

The last thing that man will abandon is his social viewpoint. He readily accepts physical changes, as these are self-evident. He clings to the intangibles, however, until new ideas fit into his economic life.

It is because of our changing economic life that the Nation is discussing new ideals. Old age pensions, long advocated by organized labor, was considered, a few years ago, unfitted for our American system. The automatic machine, with its army of unemployed together with displacement of workers who have reached the age of 40 and 45, make old age pensions a problem of major importance.

The same is true of unemployment insurance which, an eastern Governor recently declared, the people will accept as certain as they accepted workmen's compensation.

The changed outlook is again illustrated by an increasing

popular disapproval of our poor house system, with its excessive overhead and humiliating failures. The poorhouse is looked upon by thinking men and women as a symbol of human despair.

The new viewpoint on old-age pensions again sustains our claim that trade unionists are the pickets of progress and that economic facts and social necessity eventually make certain the principles these unionists are the first to urge.

The past year has been marked by a clearer understanding of the misuse of the injunction. This process is no longer called a "labor" problem. Equity is rapidly encroaching on the rights of the public press and business. Labor will continue its agitation against this wrong. We are certain that as it is understood the law-making branch of government will yield to an enlightened public opinion. This change will come when the public understands the difference between government by law and government by the conscience of one man who sits as an equity judge and who sets aside every constitutional guarantee that his irresponsible edicts may be enforced.

The universal five-day week is a certainty in the near future. It is a necessity because of changing economic conditions, and it is now being enforced in many sections.

Organized labor faces the new Collective Age with a better understanding, with increased membership and a greater faith in their possibilities through unified action. We will extend our usefulness just in proportion as we develop intelligence and a will to do.

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"RUN O' THE HOOK"

Edited by the President of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21. Members are requested to forward news items to Rm. 604, 16 First Street, San Francisco.

The funeral of James P. Olwell, who died August 21st, was held last Monday. Requiem high mass was solemnized at Star of the Sea Church, and interment was at Holy Cross Cemetery. The services were attended by a large number of members of No. 21, the Printers' Mutual Aid Society, and the Native Sons.

James G. Piratsky, a former president of San Francisco Typographical Union, now editor of the Watsonville Pajaronian, paid a feeling tribute to the memory of Mr. Olwell in the issue of that paper of August 23rd, from which the following excerpt is taken:

"We read the announcement of 'Jim's' death in this morning's San Francisco Examiner with deep sorrow, for he was for upwards of fifty years a valued and cherished friend of the writer. A rare soul was 'Jim'—loyal and true, and a man of strict integrity and honor. We first got acquainted with James Olwell some fifty years ago, when we were President of San Francisco Typographical Union No. 21. Those were troublous days in San Francisco's printerdom. The union had suffered reverses and seemingly had been crushed out of existence by the employers. However, the organization was kept alive by Olwell and a few other steadfast union men, and was gradually commencing to regain its former position when the writer took the president's office. During our incumbency of the chair, recognizing Olwell's sterling good sense and his temperate, even judgment amongst a rather fiery and untamed crowd, we made him our confidant and counselor. We found him one of those fine fellows, who, while steadfast union men, were always ready to meet the employer more than half way so that the mutual helpfulness and understanding could be enjoyed by both sides. Olwell was one of the finest union men we ever met. He worked late and early for amelioration of the many disadvantages that surrounded the 'art preservative' at that time, and was uniformly successful in a greater or less degree in his efforts. Not only was he a union man, a credit to his organization and to his craft as a workman, but he completely came up to our ideal of a charitable, Christian man. He was always helpful, ready to extend help to the needy, and his courteous manner with his shopmates made him a universal favorite."

The sympathy of the membership of No. 21 goes out to Clarence A. Davy, foreman of the News, in the death of his wife, which occurred last Friday. The funeral was held Monday, and interment was at Cypress Lawn Memorial Park.

The current issue of Editor and Publisher contains a write-up of W. N. Burkhardt, editor of the San Francisco News, as one of its series of "Romance of American Journalism." It is accompanied by an excellent portrait of Mr. Burkhardt.

Don't forget the Labor Day picnic at California Park, Marin County, Monday, September 1st. Admission 50 cents, ladies free. Take Sausalito boat.

News Chapel Notes. By L. L. Heagney.

It has been forcibly demonstrated to us again that "in the midst of life we are in death," for the

passing of Mrs. Clarence Davy occurred August 22nd and the last sad rites were held the Monday following. Her demise came after an illness of several years, quite unexpectedly, for her health had apparently been on the mend. A woman of great beauty, she possessed charm of manner and a personality which constantly enlarged her circle of intimates, and that she will be remembered with loving affection was shown by the great number of people who gathered to pay the final tribute. The flowers which filled the chapel may wither but to those who survive, her memory will not fade. To the bereaved family the printing fraternity, the News chapel in particular, extends sympathy, realizing that her friends will miss her much but her family will miss her infinitely more.

Mrs. Charley Reid, wife of the night copycutter,



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suffered a very painful accident recently. Returning from an auto outing with her husband, she stepped out of the car in front of her home, her ankle turned and the weight of her body came down on the leg as she fell, breaking the bone in three places.

When this appears in print large-scale activity at the News should be apparent to the most casual observer. For the paper will be in the throes of transferring itself to another location, a Mission street building formerly housing the defunct Bulletin. Sunday and Monday, practically two holidays, were selected because many employees will be away and newspaper work slowed down, a good time to move machinery, including printers, some of whom, reports say, will be taken along.

His situation, after a long disappearance, was restored to Harry Cross the other day. Asked if he had been given any promises as to its permanence, Harry answered it comes back with a string tied to it—it might last and then it mightn't, reminding him of what Al Phillips, 30 years a situation holder on that sheet, said when the Bulletin petered out: "If I'd known this job wasn't gonna be permanent I wouldn't have accepted it."

Remarkable results toward drying up the country through operation of the Volstead act are pointed out by Alfie Moore, who tells of a woman and her little boy passing four seafaring men on the street and the boy saying: "Look, mama, there are four sailors and only three of them drunk."

Some folks might think the Ford that Johnny Dow drives a new make of car; with a "Viber 8" sign on the spare tire cover.

MAILER NOTES.

By Leroy C. Smith.

The next important event will be the Houston conventions. The seventy-fifth annual convention of the I. T. U. will be held at Houston, Texas, September 8th to 13th. The M. T. D. U. convention will be held the week preceding the I. T. U. convention. Present indications are the membership at large is manifesting a keen interest in the deliberations of the Houston conventions. The typo-mailer and also mailer issues will be among the important matters to be given consideration by the delegates to these conventions.

It is stated by one in close touch with mailer affairs that Indianapolis has paid no per capita to the M. T. D. U. for some two months. Probably that is the reason for Mr. McArdle stating in the August Journal that Indianapolis was an "outlaw" local. If Indianapolis is delinquent to the M. T. D. U., we wonder how many more locals are delinquent to that organization. The report of the secretary-treasurer of the M. T. D. U. to its Houston convention, besides showing, in the usual jumbled-up style, the "balance on hand," should prove an interesting document.

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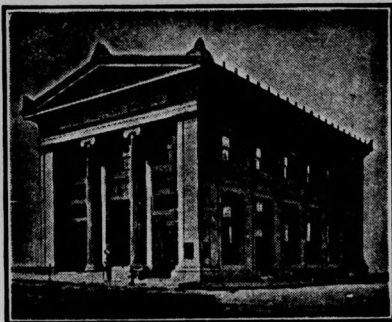
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JAMES W. MULLEN.....Editor
Telephone Market 0056
Office, S. F. Labor Temple, 2940 Sixteenth Street
MEMBER OF
UNITED LABOR PRESS OF CALIFORNIA

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 1930

Trade unionism is doubly necessary when crafty employers talk of no wage reductions while they silently attempt to undermine work standards. The unions are also necessary because of their power to mold public opinion in favor of injunction relief, old-age pensions and other social legislation. Unions are not attacked in times of prosperity. Workers must be especially vigilant in times of depression. Anti-union employers, to a large extent, have abandoned open opposition. Stealth and a destruction of the workers' morale are being used. The union hall is the forum where present conditions can be discussed and new plans agreed to on how to hold the lines. "Stand by your union" should be the slogan of every worker who appreciates the value of organization. To become discouraged is to play into the hands of opponents of every form and guise.

Citizens may be confused when they read preliminary Census Bureau figures that certain areas have but 2 and 3 per cent of their population unemployed. These figures are based on the number of persons who have no jobs and are seeking employment. They do not include workers who have been laid off. When a plant closes down and notifies employees that they are temporarily released, these are not included in the present census list of unemployed. Last June, the Census Bureau used this system in several non-industrial states, and Secretary of Commerce Lamont declared that if the theory were applied to the whole country it "would indicate much less unemployment than was generally estimated." This reasoning is faulty, as the figures do not include industrial areas, where unemployment is more general than in agricultural sections. Since then Dr. Charles E. Persons, a statistician of standing, and a former teacher at Princeton and Northwestern Universities, is reported as having resigned from the Bureau of the Census as a protest against policies that appear to minimize the number of unemployed.

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Optimism Comes up to Look

The mystery still deepens as to what force or forces are to be held responsible for the recent series of financial catastrophes which have engulfed the United States of North America and the world. But it is not difficult to understand the atmosphere of continued optimism that hovers about the centers from which the dividend checks issue.

In the melange of farm crop fatalities, Southern pellagra plagues, falling stock prices, gang butcheries, factory shut-downs, and bankruptcies, we ought, undoubtedly, to give thanks to whatever gods there be that the whirl we call civilization is not a total wreck.

In a table prepared by the Alexander Hamilton Institute, showing the comparative net earnings of 158 companies in 28 groups for the first half years of 1928, 1929, and 1930, there is proof that "business as usual"—or even a little better—is the rule in some quarters. In 16 of the 28 groups the earnings are more than they were in the year 1928; with public utilities leading, and food and electrical equipment following in that order as second and third, respectively.

Automobiles earned less by over 70 million dollars, and automobile accessories less by two million, than in 1928. Shoes and leather earned less by over three million dollars.

The increase of over three and one-half million in the net profits of machine manufacturing industries probably reflects the preparations in process for the next wave of industrial activity, as well as the enormous exports of machinery to Russia and other countries. This is about one and one-half million less of profits than the same group showed in 1929, which was the "peak" year all along the line.

Steel manufacture is usually taken as a barometer of industry generally, and the deliberate statement of the finance committee of the United States Steel Corporation is generally accepted as more than a straw in the wind. This group of men have issued the following statement: "Indications in the industry point to an increase in the operations during the balance of this quarter (the third), with an improvement in volume during the last quarter of the year."

Computations of the National City Bank's expert are based upon a study of comparative "net worth"—perhaps a more conservative method of indicating the profit-taking. He says: "For the companies in our tabulation, the net worth at the beginning of 1929 and 1930 is shown, the aggregate of \$11,743,000,000 on the latter date being \$1,212,000,000, or 11 per cent larger than a year previous, and \$1,870,000,000 or 19 per cent larger than two years previous."

Continuing, he states: "Current earnings of many companies are far from satisfactory, if considered in relation to market quotations of their stock at several times its book value, but, in relation to net assets, as shown on their audited balance sheets, the results so far this year hardly justify the loose talk so frequently heard that American business is 'flat on its back.'"

We do know that in the last ten years there has not been the hit-or-miss production and merchandising that formerly prevailed. It is logical to expect a depletion of stocks of manufactured goods much sooner in the cycle than was the rule in previous depressions. People have not stopped eating or wearing clothes, and while economies have cut the loaf in thinner slices, the great bulk of the population have had some loaves to slice.

Whatever the reason for the falling retail and wholesale prices—whether gold shipments, production above consumer ability to buy, or clearing sales to get cash—these have a tendency to stimulate the further expenditure of cash. And it helps to get the wheel turning over again at a speed returning toward the normal.

Those who can remember back to the 1890's know that we have had worse times, with more of panic, and a population having had a lower level both of wages and of standards of living previous to the crisis. And it would be small credit to the great efforts of organized labor—as well as to what we believe to be a really more enlightened employing class—to have to say that the nation met this crisis with less available resources of financial and moral reserve, than in previous times.

THE CHERRY TREE

Where with our Little Hatchet we tell the truth about many things, sometimes profoundly, sometimes flippantly, sometimes recklessly.

No job today, Nothing doing. And harsher words than that came to the ears of Prince M. Carlisle, a young man who went to New York to get a job, in these piping days of unemployment—and who found out how it goes with millions of others who look and find not. He tells a vivid story in the Churchman. He begins: "Before I came here, I was a mediocre newspaper reporter in New England—just where doesn't matter. Nearly two months ago I came here with less than twenty dollars in my pockets, and no clothing other than what I wore. I knew no one in New York. The story of my search for work in my own line is the oft-repeated round of city editors, who frankly told me I had but slim chance of finding a place on a newspaper. Soon, completely broke, I gave up this vain hunt for reportorial work, and sought—still seek—any kind of work that will keep me from starvation. The hope inspired by long lines of employment agencies in Sixth Avenue, soon faded when I learned that fees must be paid in advance, and that frequently men are deliberately sent to positions for which they are obviously unfitted so that the same jobs can be sold and resold. Want ad pages carry only openings for highly specialized workers. One chain of theaters, for instance, demands that all ushers and doormen must not only be experienced, but they must be six feet tall, and between 20 and 25 years of age. An employer in any line can demand any specifications he wishes, and be sure of filling them, because the field from which he chooses is so large."

And then he tells how he lived: "At first, I slept in subways and lived on cigarets and coffee. But even this expense was too great after the first few weeks. The subways gave place to the parks, for the very simple reason that I had not the nickel for fare. The parks, however, are patrolled by police officers grown brutal with long experience with 'bums.' Sleepers on benches are frequently wakened by the whack of a nightstick against the soles of their blistered feet."

And then, pounded around and thrown into a great human company in which desperation had bitten hard, he found out about others:

"I have learned that many are on the verge of criminal careers. No doubt, many others have already embarked upon such careers. Not to condone (I sometimes wonder why) but rather to explain, let us think for a moment of the psychology of a jobless youth who turns to crime. In the first place, he is a skilled craftsman, capable of earning a very comfortable living. He is young. He is accustomed to such pleasures as a young worker enjoys—dancing, motion pictures, trips to amusement parks, and clean association with young women. Thrown out of work, by a cessation of orders in the mill back home, he is lured to New York. For weeks he walks the streets, answers want ads, haunts employment offices, always hearing the same old story—'Nothing open today.' At night he is drawn to Broadway. He must walk the streets, for he has no home. And he chooses to walk in the crowds—rather than in back alleys. He sees in Times Square the throbbing mass of pleasure-bent humans—bankers, bootleggers, shop girls, show girls, millionaires, clerks—every one seeking pleasure (most of them in vain, incidentally) and every one spending—spending on luxuries—spending in the mad hunt for happiness—spending money that would buy him coffee and a night's 'hop.' His head reels dizzily as he recalls three or four sleepless nights of 'carrying the banner.'"

WIT AT RANDOM

"Mother, was your name Pullman before you were married?"

"No, dear; why do you ask?"

"Well, I just wondered. I see that name on a lot of our towels."

She—He's so romantic! Whenever he speaks to me he starts, "Fair Lady."

He—Shucks! There's nothing romantic about that. That's just force of habit. He used to be a conductor.

An Italian, having applied for citizenship, was being examined in the naturalization court.

"Who is the President of the United States?"

"Mr. Hoover."

"Who is vice-president?"

"Mr. Curtis."

"Could you be President?"

"No."

"Why?"

"Mista, you 'scuca me, please; I vera busy worka da railroad."

Professor (speaking on phone)—You say that Billy Smith has a bad cold and will not be able to attend school today. Who is this speaking?

Voice (hoarsely)—My father.

A guide showing an old lady over the zoo, took her to a cage occupied by a kangaroo.

"Here, madam," he said, "we have a native of Australia."

The visitor stared at it in horror.

"Good gracious," she said, "an' to think my sister married one o' them."

The soldiers marched to the church and halted in the square outside. One wing of the edifice was undergoing repairs, so there was room for only about half the regiment.

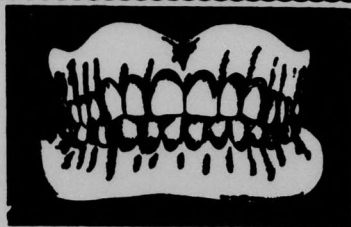
"Sergeant," ordered the captain, "tell the men who don't want to go to church to fall out."

A large number quickly availed themselves of the privilege.

"Now, sergeant," said the captain, "dismiss all the men who did not fall out and march the others in—they need it most."

Brevity is the soul of modern journalism. A budding journalist was told never to use two words where one would do. He carried out this advice in his report of a fatal accident in the following manner:

"John Jones struck a match to see if there was any gasoline in his tank. There was. Age sixty-five."—"Selected" by the Christian Evangelist.



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Q.—Is it the law now that convict-made goods cannot be imported?

A.—It is the law that goods manufactured by convict labor cannot be imported, but a new law, effective January 1, 1932, will shut out goods that are in any manner produced by convict, forced, indentured or any kind of involuntary labor.

Q.—Will the American Legion and A. F. of L. exchange speakers this year?

A.—Yes. A Legion representative will address the American Federation of Labor convention and vice versa. Both organizations will be in session at the same time in Boston.

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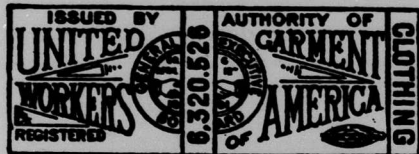
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SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting Held August 22, 1930.

Meeting called to order at 8 p. m. by President
Roe H. Baker.

Roll Call of Officers—Vice-President S. T. Dixon
excused, and Delegate Thomas Dowd appointed
to occupy his chair.

Minutes—The minutes of previous meeting ap-
proved as printed in Labor Clarion.

Credentials—Cooks No. 44, Martin Lawhern vice
Joe Dodge, resigned; Office Employees, Jerome
D'Ewart vice Andrew Geggus. Delegates seated.

Communications—Filed: Electrical Workers No.
151, and Waiters No. 30, transmitting donations to
the Power Bond campaign. Convention call from
the American Federation of Labor, giving details
of arrangements for the convention to assemble in
Boston Monday, October 6th; read and referred to
Labor Clarion for publication. On motion duly
made and carried, Council decided to send a dele-
gate and ordered first nominations to be made at
the next regular meeting of the Council.

Reports of Unions—Milk Wagon Drivers made
a donation to the Power Bond campaign, and will
hold a special meeting to consider a request from
employers to make some radical changes in the

working agreement. Theatrical Federation of San
Francisco has unionized the Regent Theatre, at
Fillmore and Clay, pending cases still in court.
Electrical Workers No. 151 are conducting a vigor-
ous campaign for the passage of the four Power
Bond issues, and requests all friends of municipal
ownership to vote "Yes" on same. Cooks No. 44
have made a donation to the Power Bond cam-
paign. Laundry Workers have signed a two-year
agreement with employers and thank Council and
officers for assistance.

Michael Casey, President of Brotherhood of
Teamsters No. 85, gave an extended and most in-
teresting account of the formation of this organi-
zation, which celebrated the thirtieth anniversary
of its existence on August 5th. The delegates en-
joyed Brother Casey's historical recital, and gave
him and his organization warm applause at the
conclusion of his story, which is one of the most
remarkable in the annals of labor, and is the best
answer to those in and out of the labor movement
who would like to know what organized labor has
done and is doing for them.

Waitresses No. 48 would like to have a renewed
demand for the working buttons of the culinary
crafts, when union members patronize restaurants
and eating houses. Teamsters No. 85 are still
contending against the Milk Producers Association
of Modesto, and request renewed activity against
the purchase of Modesto and Challenge brands of
butter. Street Carmen are conducting a vigorous
campaign to carry the Power Bonds. Culinary
Trades are still carrying on against the Foster
Lunch places. Joseph Casey, organizer of the
American Federation of Labor, recited his activities
in the southern part of the state, and requested
renewed activities in behalf of the striking milk
drivers of Modesto.

Reports of Committees—Report of Labor Day
Committee read and filed.

New Business—Moved that the name of Regent
Theatre be removed from the Council's "We Don't
Patronize List." Carried.

Brother Thomas Dowd explained his position
regarding candidates on the Freeholders' Ticket.

The Council adjourned at 10 p. m. in respect to
the memory of J. P. Olwell, member of Typo-
graphical Union.

Receipts, \$491.63; expenditures, \$226.88.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN A. O'CONNELL, Secy.

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TRADE UNION PROMOTIONAL LEAGUE.

Minutes of Meeting Held August 20, 1930.

The regular meeting of the Trade Union Promotional League was held Wednesday, August 20th, in Mechanics' Hall, Labor Temple.

The meeting was called to order by President A. V. Williams at 8:10 p. m., and on roll call N. Burton was absent and Sid France was excused.

The minutes of meeting held August 6th was approved as read.

Communications—From Ladies' Auxiliary of the League, minutes, read and filed. Building Trades Council, minutes, read and filed. Union Label Trades Department on the significance of Labor Day and the demand for the union label, working card and button every day in the year; filed. Herman the Tailor, 1104 Market street, requests you to always demand the Tailors' Union label; filed.

Bills—Read and referred to the Trustees; same ordered paid.

Agitation Committee—On the letter from the editor, F. W. Ely of Organized Labor, relative to advertising the union label, card and button in its columns. The committee recommends that inasmuch that this class of advertising would have to be carried on in the Labor Clarion as well as in Organized Labor, the cost would be too prohibitive for the revenue of the League and that the subject matter be filed for some future date. Concurred in.

Secretary's Report—Stated that Brother N. Burton and he had gone with a committee from United Garment Workers' Union No. 131, to Napa to put on a label review at the meeting of their sister local there. The picture, "The History of the Garment Working Industry," was shown in conjunction with the Union Label Film and a comic picture. The meeting was well attended and refreshments were served afterwards. That all plans for the Labor Day exhibit booth were being perfected with all recommendations of the Agitation Committee concurred in.

Reports of Unions—Waiters No. 30 report good progress in organizing various hotels. Tailors report business very bad; that to their knowledge at least one-third of the firemen had their uniforms union-made; will hold their ball in California Hall,

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Polk and Turk streets, September 20th; will have committees visit the union meeting on their union label. Carpenters No. 483 state it is still slow in their line; will endeavor to have candidates for offices in the local wear a certain number of union-made wearing apparel to be elected. Sign Painters state that Foster & Kleiser will broadcast over KFRC; this firm employs their members. Molders say it is quiet and ask you to remember the names of the local union-made stoves: Wedgewood, Occidental and Spark stoves. Piledrivers, Stereotypers and Bill Posters say it is fair. Office Employees are interested in the election of the Freeholders. Cracker Bakers report business still quiet; expect to place an organizer in the field soon; all cracker factories in the bay district are union. Milk Wagon Drivers' Union state that they are afflicted with the milk bootlegger who peddles milk at factories, foundries, building jobs and other places without a permit and proper sanitary conditions; do not buy from them. Ladies' Auxiliary of the League report their members active in demanding the union label, card and button and will hold a Bunco party after adjournment of the meeting of the League September 3rd; score card 25c, with good prizes.

New Business—Motion made and carried that this League go on record in advocating to the best of its ability the purchasing of homes built by fair contractors and under union conditions.

Good and Welfare—Under this head considerable discussion arose in the alteration of ready-made clothing. It developed that you may purchase a union-made ready-to-wear suit of clothes in a store employing union clerks, yet if the suit has to be altered to fit you and this work is done by a non-union person you are not giving proper support to the Tailors' Union. The Johnson Clothing Co. in the Mission is the only one employing a member of the Tailors' Union to do this work.

Receipts, \$115.94; bills paid, \$81.00.

Meeting adjourned at 10 p. m., to meet again Wednesday, September 3rd. The Ladies' Auxiliary will hold their Bunco party at adjournment of the meeting. All welcome.

Fraternally submitted,

W. G. DESEPTE, Secy.

MINUTES OF THE LADIES' AUXILIARY.

The Ladies' Auxiliary of the Trades Union Promotional League held their meeting August 20th in room 315, Labor Temple, 16th and Capp streets.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mrs. W. G. Desepete, at 8:30 p. m.

Roll call of officers—Absentees noted.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved.

Communications read and filed.

Unfinished Business attended to.

New Business—It was moved, seconded and carried that the Ladies' Auxiliary would contribute three pair of ladies' union label silk hosiery to the Trades Union Promotional League Booth, for the Labor Day picnic at California Park.

The Ladies' Auxiliary wishes to announce that there will be a bunco party at their next meeting in the hall after the T. U. P. L. meeting on September 3rd. We wish to invite all the delegates and members and their families and friends to come to our Bunco Party. We are sure they will have a good time. Good prizes will be distributed.

Good of the Auxiliary—Members give very good reports of demanding the card and button.

With no further business to come before the Auxiliary the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

MRS. M. E. DECKER, Secretary.

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PROGRAM LABOR DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, September 1, 1930

Under the Auspices of
SAN FRANCISCO LABOR COUNCIL
and
THE BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL

Officers—Roe H. Baker, chairman; James B. Gallagher, vice-chairman; John A. O'Connell, secretary; Thomas Doyle, secretary; Patrick O'Brien, Dan Cavanaugh, T. C. Meagher, sergeants-at-arms.

Committee of Arrangements—Roe H. Baker, chairman; John A. O'Connell and Thomas Doyle, secretaries; William P. Stanton, James B. Gallagher, George Kidwell, Anthony L. Noriega, M. S. Maxwell, Charles D. Mull, Sidney B. France, Frank C. MacDonald, J. J. Swanson, Hugo Ernst, Theo. Johnson, Daniel P. Haggerty, Michael Casey, Paul Scharrenberg, Al Berryessa, J. J. McTiernan, James Coulsting, John F. Metcalf, Thos. Doyle, H. P. Brigaerts, C. C. Terrill, William H. Urmy, Joseph Willis, George Burger, John LaForce, F. P. Nicholas, Geo. S. Hollis, E. A. Dwyer, Daniel C. Murphy, Sarah S. Hagan, Anna Brown, Ella Wunderlich, Laura Molleda, Mabel Sutton, Nellie Casey, Stanley Roman.

Reception Committee—Harry Milton, chairman; T. C. Meagher, James Dowd, Harry Hall, Thos. Walsh, John Orcutt, Joseph Ault, Dan Dougherty, Richard Patterson, Chris Hale, M. E. Decker, Theo. Johnson, Thomas Dowd, M. L. Harris, Frank C. Miller, James W. Mullen, Frank Ferguson, Edw. McLaughlin, A. C. Sheehan, F. J. Donworth, Walter Otto, Harry Lowenstein, Frank Flohr, John Dempsey.

Floor Committee—Tom Meagher, floor manager; William P. McCabe, Dan Cavanaugh, W. G. Desepte, Joseph Ault, William T. Bonsor, Richard Patterson, Tom Connors, John McGovern, Joseph Tuite, Frank Brady, Anthony Brenner, Walter Otto, F. J. Donworth, William Granfield, Tom Shaughnessey, John F. Metcalf.

Games Committee—Frank Brown, chairman; R. R. Corrie, Joseph Willis, Joseph Trumpower, A. T. Wynn, John Coughlan, James E. Hopkins, M. Guerra, Tom Connors, John McGovern, Hugo Ernst, George Cullen, William Rhys, L. D. Wilson, J. J. Gallagher, Patrick O'Brien, Louis Wolff, L. C. Dressler, Edw. Vandeleur.

Barbecue Committee—M. S. Maxwell, chairman; Frank Flohr, R. Brugge, Frank Stahl, W. G. Smith, Walter Murray, Joseph DePool.

Booth Committee—W. G. Desepte, chairman; A. V. Williams, George J. Plato, Sidney B. France, J. C. Willis, C. H. Parker, Noble Burton, Jack Williams, Thos. A. Rotell, Mrs. J. R. Gerhart, Mrs. T. Duryea, Mrs. W. G. Desepte, Mrs. M. E. Decker, Mrs. C. Nealon.

Prize Committee—Joseph Tuite, chairman. All delegates to the Joint Labor Day Committee are members of this committee.

Games and Athletic Events.

Officials—Referee, Robert W. Dodd; Starter, Walter Christie; Chief Clerk, Ray Daugherty;

Judges of Finish, Al Sandell, Adolph Kutner. Field Judges, Frank R. Geiss, Attilio Maggiora. Timers, Al Katschinski, Will Brandt, Percy L. Locey.

Athletic program starts at 2:30 p. m.

Strictly Amateur Events.

75-yard dash; 440-yard run; 880-yard run; two mile run; pole vault; shot put; running high jump; four-men relay (each man to run 200 yards) scratch.

Open Races and Games.

Girls' Race, under 12 years, first prize \$2.50 cash; second prize, \$1.50 cash; third prize, \$1.00.

Boys' Race, under 12 years; first prize, \$2.50; second, \$1.50; third, \$1.00.

Young Ladies' Race, first prize, \$5.00; second, \$2.50; third, \$2.00.

Young Men's Race, first prize, \$5.00; second, \$2.50; third, \$2.00.

Candy Eating Contest for Boys, first prize, \$2.50 cash; second, \$1.50; third, \$1.00.

Candy Eating Contest for Girls, first prize, \$2.50; second, \$1.50; third, \$1.00.

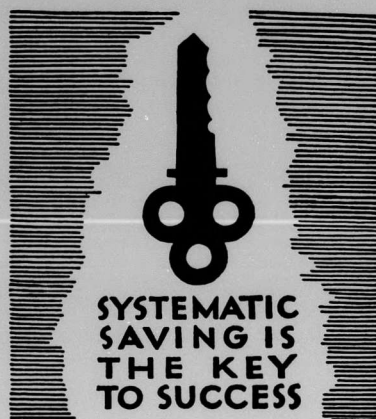
Sack Race for Boys, first prize, \$2.50; second prize, \$1.50; third, \$1.00.

Egg Race for Ladies, first prize, \$5.00; second, \$2.50; third, \$2.00.

Nail Driving Contest for Ladies, first prize, \$3.00; second prize, \$2.00; third, \$1.00.

Walking Race for Chairmen of Committees, first prize, \$5.00 cash; second prize, \$3.00; third, \$2.00.

Pie Eating Contest, first prize, \$2.50; second, \$1.50; third, \$1.00.



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Although the history of California is filled with romance since the days in 1542, when Juan Rodriques Cabrillo, an adventurous navigator, reached the shores of the Pacific, and later was followed by the padres under the leadership of Father Junipero Serra, who established missions to convert the Indians, the outstanding event that turned the eyes of the civilized world to this land of boundless mineral wealth was the news of the discovery of gold at Coloma, on the American River, January 24, 1848, by John W. Marshall.

England, France and Italy and, in fact, every corner of the globe added its quota to the endless throng that came in search of the precious metal. From our own Eastern states came the Pioneers, across the plains in covered wagons, braving the hardships of Indian attacks and starvation, and these sturdy men formed the nucleus for the Society of California Pioneers, which was organized in August, 1850.

Representing almost every nationality and creed, the inhabitants realized the necessity of self-government, and representatives met in Colton Hall at Monterey in October, 1849, adopted a constitution and elected two Senators, who proceeded to Washington and urged that the newly-formed state be admitted into the sisterhood of states.

Senator William H. Seward, who later became Secretary of State under Lincoln, led the battle and California was admitted September 9, 1850, with a constitution declaring for a free state and was the pivotal state in the emancipation of slavery.

In 1875 a patriotic fraternal society was formed, under the title of Native Sons of the Golden West, whose object was to perpetuate the memories of the pioneer fathers and mothers of the days of '49 and to advance the interests of California in general. About ten years later a similar organization was formed, termed the Native Daughters of the Golden West. These two orders, in conjunction with the Society of California Pioneers and other societies of a kindred nature, are the prime factors in keeping alive the observance of Admission Day, the legal holiday that was created by the State Legislature.

California is unique in that it was admitted without territorial probation and is the only State in the Union, except Nevada and Wyoming, that recognize their birthdays by the declaration of a legal holiday.

There is logic in every native born and adopted citizen of California, at least once a year paying reverence to the birthday of the greatest State in the Union, for there are none that can excel it in natural resources, and its reputation as the land of sunshine, fruits and flowers is undisputed. California has produced men and women who have attained world-wide acclaim in varied occupations and sports, and our latest achievement was to elect one of our number, Hon. Herbert Hoover, to the highest office in the gift of the people of the United States.

California is indeed fortunate when compared with other states and every loyal native born or adopted citizen should rejoice in being able to celebrate its birthday.

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Filipinos in California

Will J. French, director of the State Department of Industrial Relations, has announced the completion of a report on the problem of Filipinos in California. According to the introduction to this document, the present publication of the department "is not presented as an argument for or against Filipino exclusion." Instead, "it furnishes data, not elsewhere available, as to the extent of the Filipino immigration into California since 1920, and also data bearing upon the characteristics of the new wave of Malay immigration into the State."

The salient facts presented in this bulletin are summarized as follows:

During the ten years from 1920 to 1929, 31,092 Filipinos were admitted into the State of California through the ports of San Francisco and Los Angeles. Of this total, 25,579, or 82.3 per cent, were admitted at San Francisco, and 5513, or 17.7 per cent, were admitted at Los Angeles.

About 85 per cent of these Orientals were brought to California, from the Philippine and Hawaiian Islands, in vessels operated by two California steamship companies.

The influx of Filipinos into California began in the year 1923, when 2,426 Philippine Islanders were admitted into the State. During the three preceding years the total number of Filipino arrivals was only 1855, or on the average of 618 per year. During the seven years 1923-1929, the average annual number of arrivals was 4177.

The largest number of Filipino arrivals into California was during the year 1929, when as many as 5795 were admitted, an increase of 139 per cent over the number admitted in 1923, when the Filipino invasion began.

Of the total number of Filipino arrivals into California during the 10 years covered by this report, 35 per cent came from the Philippines, 56 per cent came from Hawaii, and 9 per cent came from other ports, principally from Hongkong and Shanghai in China, and Kobe and Yokohama in Japan.

Since 1920 there has been a constant increase in the numbers and proportions of Filipinos coming to California directly from the Philippine Islands. Thus, of the 2426 Filipinos who arrived in California in 1923, only 218, or 9 per cent, came from Manila, and 2053, or 84.6 per cent, came from Honolulu, but of the 5795 Filipino arrivals in 1929, 2609, or 45 per cent, came from Manila, and 2622, or 45.3 per cent, came from Honolulu.

A comparison between the emigration of Filipinos from the Philippines to Hawaii and to California strongly suggests the probability that large numbers of Filipinos, instead of emigrating to Hawaii and then to California, emigrate directly from the Philippines to California.

Of the male Filipinos who came to California from the Hawaiian Islands in 1921 and 1922, from 30 to 34 per cent were born in the Hawaiian Islands, and from 66 to 70 per cent were born in the Philippines. Since 1923, from 81 to 97 per cent of the Filipinos who emigrated from Hawaii to California were emigrants from the Philippines to Hawaii.

Among the female Filipinos coming to California from

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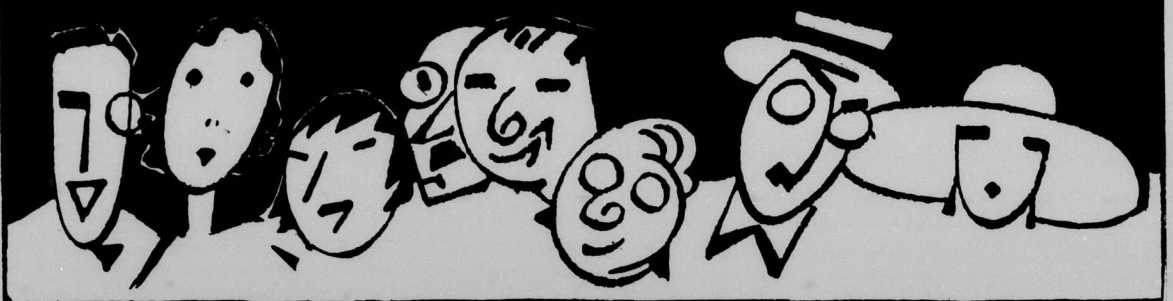
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the Hawaiian Islands, the majority are natives of the Hawaiian Islands.

Out of every 100 Filipinos who came to California during the ten years, 1920-1929, 93 were males and 7 were females. During the 10 years considered there were admitted into California 1395 Filipino males for every 100 Filipino females admitted. While the ratio of Filipino males to females coming to California is 14 to 1, the ratio of males to females in the total California population is 1.1 to 1.

Among the Filipinos coming to California the preponderant majority are young persons. Of the total arrivals 4.9 per cent are under 16 years of age and 79.4 per cent are between 16 to 30 years of age. The total number under 30 years of age constitutes 84.3 per cent of the arrivals. In contrast, the percentage in the total population in California who are under 30 years of age is only 22.8.

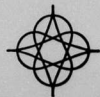
Among the female Filipino arrivals in California, the preponderance of young persons is greater than among male Filipinos. While among the females the proportion under 16 years of age is 35.3 per cent, among the males this proportion is 4.9 per cent. Again, while among the female Filipino arrivals 57.2 per cent are under 22 years of age, among the male Filipino arrivals the corresponding percentage is 36.3.

Seventy-seven and three-tenths per cent of the Filipinos coming to California are single, 22.5 per cent are married, and 0.2 per cent are widowed. The corresponding percentages in the total population of California are 47.9 single, 43.7 married and 6.7 widowed.

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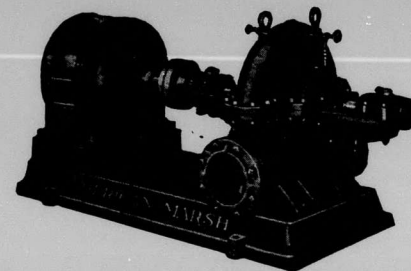
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58 Sutter Street**THE QUESTION OF COMPETENCE.**

By Robert Whitaker

American labor is the most competent and economic labor in the world. American capital is scandalously and absurdly incompetent.

These statements will be challenged widely and vigorously. But they are both capable of indubitable proof.

American labor gets the largest absolute wage in the world. American labor gets the lowest relative wage in the world. A smaller proportion of what labor produces goes to labor in the United States of American than anywhere else on earth.

American capital gets the largest returns upon its investment of any considerable body of capital anywhere on earth. American capital gives back to those who produce the wealth on which this capital fattens a smaller proportion than does capital anywhere else.

No one of these statements can be successfully denied. Not one of them has been until very recent days recognized by American labor. Yet these facts are the most important body of facts having to do with world order today. It is because American labor produces more, for a smaller proportion of the product, than labor elsewhere that American capital piles up profits as nowhere else on earth, and goes faring forth to the ends of the earth seeking whom it may devour. And in this devouring process, which we call by the polite name of foreign investment, competitions are increased, and antagonisms evoked, which compel us to spend more money on militarism than any nation in the world, and to interfere in the affairs of other people everywhere.

Yet with all this unparalleled productiveness of American labor, capitalist management in the United States is so incompetent that the government has to step in whenever a real crisis, like the World War, or the Mississippi floods, or the stock market crash, or the present drought in the Eastern States, occurs in order to save the day, and is so handicapped by the anarchy of our business masters that even the government can do nothing effective to avert widespread disaster. And worse yet, the business masters of the United States, when crops are good, have to call in the government to help them devise some scheme for

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decreasing production or actually destroying vast bodies of goods in order to keep business going at all. There is no more mendacious and mischievous superstition among us than the notion that American business management is competent. It is the most glaringly incompetent exhibit of every-day lack of executive intelligence one can well conceive.

Here, for instance, is a country competent so far as labor and the machinery which labor has produced are concerned, to feed and clothe and house comfortably the whole world, and this country right now has millions of men walking the streets, in anguish beyond words, begging for a chance to do some creative work from which they may have a pittance of what they produce for themselves and their families. And our excuse in this situation is that over-production is at fault for the fact that people are starving for want of the food we are destroying, and going generally destitute because we cannot let them produce goods.

John Ruskin, the great English artist and social critic, said years ago that the explanation of hard times as proceeding from "over-production" is not only the stupidest thing that ever was said, but the stupidest thing that possibly could be said. And so it is, from the viewpoint of just plain common sense. But what has common sense to do with the management of business in the United States today?

The truth that lies back of the stupidity that "hard times proceed from over-production" is this, that our business management is not directed to the organization of production and distribution in the interests of the producers and consumers, but according to a certain congestion of purchasing power which stalls business every few years and makes it mischievous on a world scale even when it is supposed to be running well. There is no over-production from the standpoint of common need and comfort. There is over-production, from the standpoint of that depleted purchasing power of the workers which piles up unsold surpluses here and there and discharges the workers by the millions until we can dispose of what we need ourselves to foreigners, or dump it into the harbors beside our great cities, or waste it in a world

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war, or let it rot in the fields. It is not production which is the matter with us, not over-production. It is purchasing power, or rather the lack of it, among our own people.

Even big business is having this obvious fact thrust upon their attention from their own ranks. "The Best Customer," a book recently put forth by a writer who boasts that he has no use for radicalism of any kind, proves beyond controversy that American labor is the true customer for American goods, and that until the purchasing power of American workers is raised to the level of enabling them to use what they produce, there is no real prosperity for us. He does not use this exact language, but this is the substance of his argument and the logic of the facts which he sets forth.

But how can purchasing power match producing power unless it is distributed among the workers, in which case there will be no surplus for profiteers to exploit? The exploitation would not be so bad and so futile itself if the exploiters could actually use up what they take from the workers. But they cannot. Unfortunately, they can live on a small portion of it, while they stop the machinery until they find some place to dump the rest, according to their own devices. The workers, having no reserves upon which to draw when the machinery stops, must starve while the plunderbund look around for markets, or fight other nations for profitable dumping grounds for their surplus goods. What really happens is worse yet. For if all the workers were thrown out of work at once, the universal need would force them to look the facts in the face and correct the vast insanity. But the blundering management keeps part of the workers on, reducing their wages and living standards where they can, and discharges the rest of them, to shift for themselves. Those who are retained at work cannot protest effectively either against their own reduced wages or on behalf of the wageless unemployed around them, for if they make their protest too troublesome they are themselves discharged and replaced by the desperate unemployed. Thus labor unemployed becomes the enemy of labor employed, and labor employed dare not be the friend of the unemployed. Capitalist management not only balls up the works by its own incompetence, but will not allow the competence of labor to come to its own relief.

Diogenes, the Greek philosopher and cynic, asked by Alexander in a patronizing way, "What can I do for you?" replied curtly, it is said, "Get out of my sun!" American labor might well study the reply and utilize it with respect to the alleged "management" of American big business. The so-called managers of our industrial machine are not really managers at all; they are not even competent observers. Everything that is of actual consequence is being done by hired men. Labor is, in fact, at the helm so far as the creative and distributive functions are concerned. But labor is not free to do either creating or distributing on common sense lines and with respect to the general welfare. What passes for management is the interference of profiteers, who do not know how to run affairs so as to even serve their own permanent interests. They not only muddle everybody else's business, but are in a continual muddle among themselves. It is time some discharging was done at the point where discharges would allow labor to do its largest possible service to mankind. Anyway, the time is here for dismissing, with the contempt which belongs to it, the claim too long allowed of the competence of the so-called "higher-ups," whether capitalists themselves or only the salaried apologists of our intruding mismanagers of human affairs.

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Hollywood Dry Corporation and its Products.
Koffee Kup, 5424 Geary.
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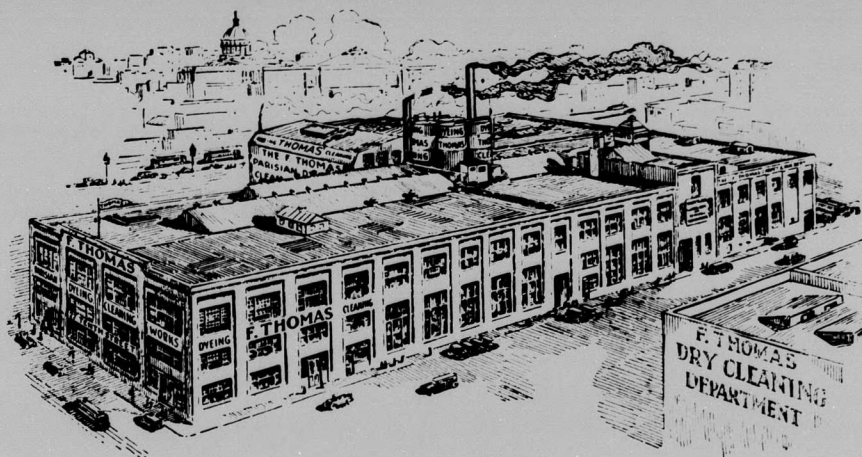
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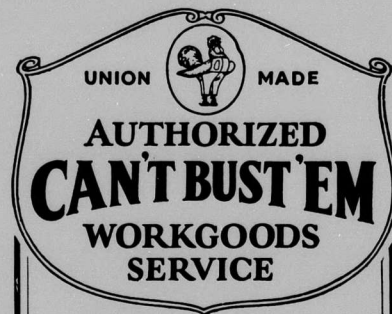
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